

THE NATIONAL

Wool Grower

PERIODICAL DEPARTMENT

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VOLUME XXXIII

MARCH, 1943

NUMBER 3

WHO IS YOUR SALESMAN?



No important organization with a commodity to sell would consider operating without a strong sales department. No efficient industry would trust its selling to new, untrained salesmen.

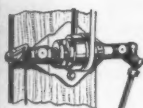
Livestock producers, like men in other industries, are interested in selling their commodity where it will yield the greatest profit. The **CENTRAL LIVESTOCK MARKETS** are really the sales departments of the livestock industry. Only at Central Markets will you find salesmen to sell your livestock, whose training, experience and ability equal that of the buyers. Only at Central Markets will you find salesmen who know the pulse of supply and demand—know where the best outlet is for your particular kind and quality of livestock—know market conditions and keep thoroughly informed on prices paid in all sections of the country—in short, know *which buyers can pay the highest prices for your livestock.*



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available for 1943, meets all your requirements

VB1 SHEARING MACHINE



Uses either V-Belt or Flat Belt.

Has the new, improved 1943 Stewart V-Bracket. Simple in design, compact and sturdy in construction, built for long years of service. Two types:—The VB1, for permanent mounting, as illustrated, can be operated from any $\frac{1}{4}$ h. p. electric motor. The VB2 has 3 section jointed shaft for operation from any gasoline engine $\frac{1}{2}$ h. p. or more. Can be used from rear of a pick-up truck, the trunk of an automobile, or on a trailer. Both types have the latest Stewart EBR handpiece, 2 combs, and 4 cutters. VB1, \$48.95. VB2, \$56.95.

Available with either 2 or 3 section jointed shaft.

ABOUT DELIVERIES

Stewart combs, cutters and most repair parts are being shipped now. Stewart machines and handpieces will be shipped from the factory in March, April or May, though ordinarily they are shipped in January, February and March. Due to the war, steel and other raw materials were hard to get and slow in coming, which accounts for the unavoidable delay.

But we have them. They are being worked into shearing equipment just as fast as possible to supply your needs. So you should place your order with your dealer right now to be in line for delivery later.

For further information, write:

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The famous STEWART SHEARMASTER—fast, powerful, easy-to-use. For the smaller farm flock. New, extra-powerful, ball-bearing motor right in the handle. New, improved E-B Tension Control. With the Universal, 110-120 V. motor, 2 shearing combs and 4 cutters. No. 31, \$27.45.



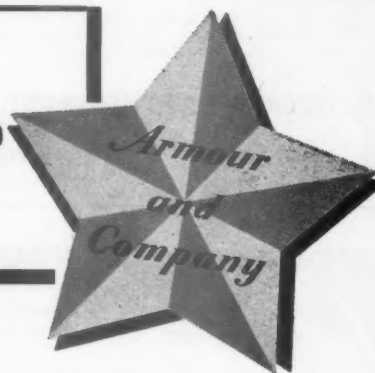
Ideal for the average farm flock.

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Has the famous patented E-B Tension Control that eliminates back-up, permits finest adjustment of tension. Longer wear... less vibration... low upkeep cost. Cuts smoother in hard sheep. Easy to handle and guide. The EBR has the long-established round crank ball. EBR, \$13.95.

WHAT'S A STEER WORTH?



Some people say a steer is worth what it costs to produce, plus a profit—but every business man, whether he be a farmer or a merchant, knows that anything is worth only what somebody will pay for it and its cost is a minor factor.

Do the producers of steers, hogs and sheep get the full value of their animals when they sell them at the nation's market places? The answer to that question depends on these factors:

- (1) How much the consuming public is willing to pay for the products which are made from the meat animal.
- (2) What portion of the consumer's dollar goes back to the producer?

- (3) Is the work of converting live animals into meat and by-products performed efficiently?

- (4) How much profit does the packer get?

Approximately 75% of what packers receive for meat and by-products goes back to the producers of livestock.

The efficiency of the packing industry is generally recognized and few industries are able to maintain themselves on as small a portion of their total income as is the packing industry.


Packers' profits over a long period of years have averaged less than two cents per dollar of sales and less than 6% on capital in-

vested in plants, equipment, etc.

The smallness of packers' profits and the large portion of the total revenue which goes back to the producers are positive evidence that natural laws of competition and good business management are operating to make a steer net its producer all that the public says it is worth.

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WOOL CLIP
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Concentrated Spring Range* in Ful-O-Pep is Nature's Richest Combination of Vitamins, supplying many healthful benefits of fresh spring grass!

RANGE ALONE often fails to supply the essential vitamins that breeding ewes need. Even ordinary range supplements are usually lacking in necessary vitamins and minerals. This fact is brought out clearly in a range feeding test conducted last winter with a large flock of ewes.

HALF THE FLOCK received an ordinary high-protein range feed, while the other half was fed a ration fortified with unjointed dehydrated cereal grass, the amazing vitamin ingredient contained in Ful-O-Pep Range Breeder Cubes. The ewes that were fed the vitamin-rich feed averaged over 25% more lambs at lambing time! In addition, the lambs were stronger, and the ewes had more milk for them.

THIS YEAR, fortify your flock with FUL-O-PEP RANGE BREEDER CUBES. This feed supplies an amazing variety of carbohydrate, protein, mineral and vitamin sources to furnish heat and energy . . . to build a big lamb crop and a heavy wool clip. For more details, see your Ful-O-Pep dealer or write

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**A GOOD CUP O'COFFEE
DESERVES THE FINER FLAVOR
OF MORNING MILK!**



**Tastes Better
Keeps Fresh Longer
— Say Sheepmen.**

MORNING MILK

The Cutting Chute

FEEDING THE FLOCK

Our cover picture was taken in the Wyoming country by Charles J. Belden, but it is typical of almost any place in the range area during this season of the year. Supplemental feeding this year, however, has been difficult in a good many sections due to the scarcity of hay and protein feeds. This is certain, though, that sheepmen have brought their flocks through the winter in the best possible condition under the circumstances.

WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1942

Total production of wool in the United States, both shorn and pulled, in 1942 was 459,073,000, according to the estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture released on March 4. Of this quantity 392,373,000 pounds was shorn wool and 66,700,000 pounds, pulled wool. In addition, there was about 1,250,000 pounds of grease equivalent wool shorn from lamb and sheep skins as part of the process of producing shearlings. Total wool production was the largest on record.

The present estimate of 1942 shorn wools differs only slightly from the preliminary estimate of last August, which was 392,346,000 pounds.

The number of sheep shorn is estimated at 49,784,000, with the weight of wool per sheep shorn averaging 8 pounds. In 1941, the number of sheep shorn was figured to be 48,130,000 and the average fleece weight 8.11 pounds.

The average local price of shorn wool in 1942 was 40.1 cents per pound, compared with 35.5 cents in 1941.

WICKARD ASKS TRANSFER OF GAME SERVICE

A press dispatch out of Washington on February 13 reports that Secretary Wickard is seeking a return of the Fish and Wildlife Service to the Department of Agriculture. Under the reorganization program, the Bureau of the Biological Survey, then a division of the Department of Agriculture, was combined with the Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce, and the new division, called the Fish and Wildlife Service, was placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. Secretary Wickard, according to the news item, says that since his department is handling the food problems of the country, it should also have control over the fisheries service.

SHEEP QUEEN OF 1943

Mrs. Mary T. Peavey, daughter of Senator John Thomas of Idaho, receives recognition in the February issue of Making the Grade with Wool (official organ of Eavenson & Levering Company, wool scouring and carbonizing plant of New Jersey), as an active sheep operator. With the help of her foreman, Sam Burks, Mrs. Peavey manages from 10,000 to 14,000 sheep and also assists in the management of a 350-acre hay ranch.

GASOLINE FOR SHEARERS

Sheep shearers are eligible for supplemental gasoline rations under Section 1394.7706 paragraph (q) of Ration Order 5-C. This section includes among those entitled to preferred mileage "a person who requires the use of a passenger automobile or motorcycle to travel from place to place (but not from home or lodging to a fixed place of work) for performing highly skilled services necessary to the operation or functioning" of, among other plants, agricultural establishments essential to the war effort.

On this basis, shearers are being granted a three-months' ration of gasoline in Utah.

SHEEP INTESTINES

The vital need of sheep intestines for the manufacture of surgical gut is expressed by the Director General for Operations, Curtis E. Calder, in his general conservation Order M-220, as amended February 24, 1943.

The entire intestine of the sheep is used to produce these sutures. No slaughterer, defined as any person who slaughtered over 1,000 sheep during the 365-day period immediately prior to February 24, 1943, may use, process or sell any sheep intestines for purposes other than for the manufacture of surgical gut until all orders or contracts are filled.

Any person who buys the intestines must certify that they are to be used in the manufacture of surgical gut and records of all parties regarding sales and purchases must be kept for not less than two years.

ALFALFA HAY CEILING

A price ceiling of \$20 per short ton at the farm level was put on loose alfalfa hay in the three Pacific Coast states—California, Oregon, and Washington, by Maximum Price Regulation 322, February 12, 1943. Sellers of baled alfalfa hay may add the actual cost of baling to the ceiling, but such charge must not be more than \$4 per ton. O.P.A. said this action was taken to help keep down feed costs to livestock growers and lessen the pressure for producer price advances on milk in that area.

The price of alfalfa hay in the Pacific Coast area had climbed sharply above the parity level. The parity price equivalent of alfalfa hay as of January 15, 1943, was \$19.85 per short ton, loose, farm basis. The national average farm price of alfalfa hay as of the same date was \$13.77. The new price regulation on alfalfa hay meets all pricing provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 and gives added weight to farm labor, according to the O.P.A.—(War Letter for Agriculture, February 22.)

SHEARING RATES

President Evans of the Sheep Shearers' Union has informed the members of that union, now a part of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, that the "shearing rate for 1943 will be 20 cents per sheep, with board furnished by the employer or the equivalent of board of not less than three cents per sheep or \$2.50 per day after beginning of employment."

FIGHTING ACRES



America's 6 million farms spread over a half-billion acres.

Right now these are fighting acres.

They're feeding at least 7 million soldiers and sailors, each of whom eats nearly twice as much as the average civilian.

They're feeding America's 35 million families.

And to top all this, they've supplied 1 1/4 billion dollars worth of food to our lend-lease allies in the last 18 months.

Most of this produce was carried by the railroads to the ports—carried in addition to the vast movement of troops, military machines and other war goods.

To keep it all on the move, the railroads are starting off a heavily loaded freight train every four seconds—are hauling a million and a quarter tons of freight a mile every minute of the day and night.

In doing their job the railroads face pressing problems similar to the farmers'.

A lot of our men have joined the armed forces. We cannot get all the extra engines and cars the rush of work requires.

But just as the farmers are going all-out to produce everything they can, we'll do our level best to continue to carry everything they grow as swiftly and reliably as we always have.

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN



RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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EDITORIALS

Washington, D. C.
March 15, 1943

IT APPEARS THAT THE PLAN AS OUTLINED IN THE EDITORIALS FOR THE WOOL GROWER THIS MONTH WILL FINALLY BE ANNOUNCED. DEALERS CLAIM THEY SHOULD HAVE HIGHER HANDLING CHARGES. IT IS MY OPINION THAT HAVING THE PLAN SET UP THIS YEAR WILL ASSURE A PROGRAM FOR LATER YEARS, BUT OFFICIAL COMMITMENT ON THIS IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN.

F. R. Marshall

Washington, D. C.
March 7, 1943

The Wool Take-Over

IT would need a large book to report in any detail the last four weeks of negotiations here in connection with the plan for government purchase of the 1943 clip through the Commodity Credit Corporation of the Department of Agriculture.

After we were informed that there would be a conference on February 8, President Winder appointed our five vice presidents to act on the Washington wool committee. Messrs. Bacon and Earwood were unable to come, but Messrs. Pauly, Hoke and Devereaux were here for the first discussions with the government officials. Mr. Winder and M. E. Noonan remained until February 27. Messrs. Wardlaw, Fawcett, and Willoughby of Texas were here for some time and the latter served through all of last week. Mr. J. B. Wilson and myself have been here all of the time, also, R. A. Ward, C. J. Fawcett, L. A. Kauffman (Ohio), and Mr. Wilkins or Mr. Stressinger of Merriam and Wilkins. There has been no set committee. At the suggestion of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Grover B. Hill, our discussions were shared with all representatives desiring to take part.

Most of the time there has been a delegation here from Summer Street, Boston. They have sat in with the growers on a good many days.

It was not until February 15 that the Bureau of the Budget partially cleared the air by its interpretation of the President's order of December 7, which we had supposed gave to the Department of Agriculture jurisdiction over most of the war wool program. The Budget decision did show that the Secretary of Agriculture has power to facilitate domestic wool production through a purchase program or other means. It left confused, however, the question of War Production Board control over imports and the use of all wool by the mills. Also control of the stockpile is still divided between W.P.B., Defense Supplies Corporation, Agriculture, and B.E.W. (Board of Economic Warfare), with the latter having the whip hand.

With the power of Agriculture over domestic wool production established, Assistant Secretary Hill held an open hearing on February 20. President Winder and several others presented and supported the position of growers as set forth in the National Wool Growers Association

report of January 26. Several Senators, Congressmen, and agricultural organizations took the same position. The dealers expressed no opposition.

On February 22, Secretary Hill asked that the wool interests submit a set of regulations under which a purchase program might be administered. That was submitted on February 25. It asked that the clip be purchased at prices 5 per cent above the 1942 O.P.A. ceiling.

C. C. C. Terms

Then on the two days following we met and argued with officials of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the agency which must handle the finances. After prolonged, but mainly good-natured argument, we learned that C.C.C. would not pay the expense of getting wool from growers' hands into consumption; also that prices higher than those set by the Office of Price Administration in 1942 would not be recognized. However, if the O.P.A. can later be induced to raise the wool ceiling, the purchase prices would be advanced. There is little prospect of such action by O.P.A., though we shall continue the effort.

The C.C.C. claims that a purchase program that would result in loss to the government would be considered a subsidy procedure and require approval of the Director of Economic Stabilization and would have to be defended before Congress, while, on the other hand, a plan that has a reasonable prospect of paying its way could be proceeded with and would be much simpler. The discussions were continued on the basis of a financing rather than a subsidy operation.

It seemed then, and still seems, that growers can sell to the government at ceiling prices, pay handling charges and yet receive more money for the clip than it was sold for in 1942. Also, it will be advantageous to have a government wool program in operation before the war stops. That will put the grower in much stronger position to receive the protection that will be needed when it becomes necessary to dispose of the stockpile, which now amounts to about 800 million pounds.

Charges to Growers

On March 3 we again met with Assistant Secretary Hill and asked to consult with the C.C.C. on the preparation of the form of contract between that agency and the firms through which wools will be received, appraised and distributed to the mills. That contract is important to us because it covers the methods of appraisal and the charges that will need to be paid by growers.

As things stood last night, with discussion scheduled again for March 10, the dealers or handlers of the wools will store them and show them to the government appraisal committee by whom the value will be determined. When a grower's clip is appraised, he will be paid by the handlers and these deductions made:

- (1.) 1.5 cents per pound for handler's services.
- (2.) $\frac{1}{8}$ of a cent per pound for appraisal expense.

(3.) 1 cent per pound for the Commodity Credit Corporation.

The third charge is the one that caused the most argument, and not without some heat. The C.C.C. says if it is to purchase the clip and sell it at ceiling prices (which it must do) without facing a certain loss, it must receive interest at 3 per cent on the large amounts of money that will be tied up for considerable periods and must have a fund to set against losses in selling some of the wool which the mills will be unwilling to take at appraised figures. In the main, the mills will be expected to pay for wool on the basis of the original appraisal.

The charge of one cent per grease pound is calculated to cover interest, losses, and administrative expense.

Adding it Up

That, in substance, is the plan that is available to wool growers. It may be a disappointment. The one-cent charge

will not readily be approved, but the terms are the best that can be obtained. Many of us here have said, "We won't play," but on further thought, most of us, including myself, have come back to these ideas:

1. It affords a certain and fairly good floor for 1943.
2. It keeps us out of the subsidy class.
3. It gets as far as is now possible toward having protection when the stockpile is liquidated; and
4. It promises to return, in the aggregate, something more than was received for wool in 1942.

It is the plan of the C.C.C. to have all contract forms, instructions, and regulations required for operation of the wool purchase program fully prepared before publication of the order putting it into effect. This work is expected to be completed during the week of March 15 but no official statement has been made as to when purchase operations will be started.

F. R. Marshall

Report of the Senate Wool Committee

LAST month the Wool Grower reported the appointment of Senator J. C. O'Mahoney (Wyoming) as chairman of the special Committee for the Investigation of the Production, Transportation and Marketing of Wool. The other members of the committee are: Carl A. Hatch of New Mexico, James E. Murray of Montana, David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, Chan Gurney of South Dakota, and John Thomas of Idaho.

This committee was first named in 1935 under a resolution introduced by the late Senator Steiwer (Oregon). Senator Adams was chairman until his death late in 1941.

In 1935 the committee named Earl S. Haskell as its investigator. Hearings were first held from May 28 to June 17, 1938. Second hearings were held from October 23 to 25, 1939. At these hearings, reports of which were printed, Mr. Haskell's findings were presented, also considerable rebuttal testimony by dealers.

On February 18, this year, Chairman O'Mahoney made a report to the committee in which was included a brief summary of the 1938 and 1939 hearings. Short statements deal with (a) Concentration of Dealers, (b) Dealer Practices Potentially Dangerous to Growers, (c) Corporate Set Up, and (d) Suggestions for Legislation. Under the last heading, the report says:

Before the close of the hearings, Senator Adams offered some suggestions for legis-

lation designed to remedy the conditions which the evidence before the committee seemed to indicate needed attention. The most important of these were as follows:

1. Establishment of an impartial appraisal service.
2. Institution of uniform and accurate record keeping.
3. Compulsory reports of sales containing all the details necessary for the grower's complete knowledge of the transaction, including names of buyers of all or any portion of a consignment.
4. Setting up official standards for the industry.
5. Reports of all "on account" sales with all necessary details.
6. Whether, or to what extent, any consignment was graded, scoured, or commingled.
7. Separation of the handling of speculative purchases and consignment purchases.
8. Licenses for dealers.

Although the committee did not seek immediate introduction of legislation, a better understanding of the problems of the industry and of its importance in the national economy was gained by all groups participating. Evidence that this mutual understanding has borne fruit has been given in recent reports of growers which indicate that many of the practices stressed as detrimental have now almost disappeared, to the benefit of both growers and dealers.

The report also reviews the testimony presented to the committee in the hearings of July, 1942, under the chairmanship of Senator Schwartz (Wyoming). These hearings related wholly to war wool affairs. Further on, the report includes various government orders affecting wool that have been issued since the Presidential Order of December 5, 1942, which provided for transfer of some wool matters from the War Production Board to the Department of Agriculture.

Producer's Responsibility for Meat Control

THE producer of livestock has a definite responsibility in assisting the government in the control of meat supplies, as evidenced by the three orders released by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard on March 5.

These orders pertain to (1) The Purchase and Sale of Livestock; (2) Permit Required for Slaughter, which became effective March 31, and (3) Restrictions on Delivery of Meat, effective March 5.

The first order affects livestock dealers', agents', and producers' operations; the second affects all slaughterers not already under control by previous orders, including "farm slaughterers," and the third order regulates the distribution of all livestock from slaughterer to consuming public.

Persons interested in more detail of these orders may write the Director of Food Distribution, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. However, this article is confined to the parts of the orders affecting the producer of livestock.

Purchase and Sale of Livestock

The term "livestock" in this order means sheep, lambs, cattle, calves, and hogs, but does not include poultry. A "producer" is defined as "any person who owns any livestock, in whole or in part, and is engaged in dairy, wool, or meat production, or in the business of breeding, feeding, or finishing such livestock."

Under this order producers are not required to secure a permit to buy

and sell livestock as producers. The producer, however, must keep the livestock purchased at least thirty days or he becomes subject to the rules applying to a "dealer." A permit is then required.

Producers must keep a record of each purchase and sale of livestock after March 31, 1943. These records must include the date of each purchase or sale, the name and address of the buyer and seller, and the number, weight, kind, and price paid for the livestock. These records are to be kept for at least two years, or for such period as directed by the Food Distribution Administration. If a producer buys from or sells to an agent, a record must be kept showing the livestock as sold to or bought from the agent.

Producers are subject to the filing of reports as asked for by the F.D.A., and also subject to inspections of their livestock, books, records and accounts upon request by the Director of Food Distribution.

The order applies to the continental limits of the forty-eight states and the District of Columbia.

Permit Required for Slaughter

For the purpose of this order, "meat" means the carcasses of sheep, lambs, cattle, calves, and swine, but excludes offal, oils, lards, casings and other by-products not ordinarily used for human consumption.

The producer or livestock man comes under the meaning of the term "farm slaughterer," who is any person engaged in producing agricultural products who slaughters livestock and, who, in 1941, did not deliver meat from the slaughter of livestock with a live weight of more than 10,000 pounds. Almost all of the livestock men of the West would come under this definition and, according to the strict letter of the order, would be required to secure a permit to slaughter any livestock. The permit may be secured either before or after slaughtering of the animal or animals.

This would mean, according to our interpretation, that if a lamb or yearling were taken from the herd and killed for meat, part of which went to one or more sheep camps, and part for home consumption, a permit would have to be secured either before or after getting the meat home. (This interpretation has been confirmed by the Utah office of the F.D.A.)

Also, under the order, no farm

slaughterer may slaughter in any calendar quarter more livestock for delivery than his quota for the quarter. ("Delivery" is defined as the transferring of physical possession of meat to any other person.)

The farm slaughterer has two bases with two alternatives each for determining his quota. If he furnishes a record of slaughter in 1941, he may slaughter the number of each type of livestock which he slaughtered in the corresponding quarter of 1941, and from which any meat was delivered, or he may slaughter the total live weight of livestock which he slaughtered in the corresponding quarter of 1941, and from which any meat was delivered. For example, if in the first quarter, (January, February, March), a producer slaughtered one thousand pound steer and three 100-pound lambs, he may slaughter the first quarter of 1943 six 100-pound lambs and two 350-pound hogs making up the total live weight slaughter as in the same period in 1941.

If the farm slaughterer does not furnish a record of his slaughter in 1941, he may have his choice of a quota of 300 pounds of meat, or any part of the meat produced from three head of livestock, which may include not more than one head of cattle.

These quotas for farm slaughterers may be reduced at any time, however, for quota periods following March 31, 1943. In cases where it is determined by the Director of Food Distribution that quotas are not sufficient to fill ration requirements, or where records show slaughter requirements are not normal, adjustments may be authorized by the Director through state and county agencies, including state or county U.S.D.A. Boards.

When delivery of meat is made by a farm slaughterer, the meat must bear the letter "P" (for permit), and the permit number assigned. This may be stamped on or, in the case of delivery of meat directly to an individual or household, a tag bearing the permit number may be substituted.

Restrictions on The Delivery of Meat

This order is not designed primarily for producers, but would affect them if sufficient meat were slaughtered under federal inspection, or required to set aside reserved meat for government agencies.

J. M. Jones

Ammunition Situation

THE problem of securing sufficient ammunition by the stockmen for the control of predators is still of serious concern in the West. However, from reports coming in, the situation has been eased somewhat by the releasing of limited quantities of shells for this work.

Limited quantities of ammunition are reported available in the far West, Colorado, and Wyoming, but Utah, Idaho, and eastern Nevada, up to this time, have had no relief though reports indicate today (March 11) ammunition allocated to this area has now been shipped.

The ammunition available includes a minimum of 30-30's, larger quantities of 30-06's, 22 long rifles and shot shells. It seems impossible up to the present time to secure release on any 25-35's; however, they have been promised. It has been stated that no other calibers suitable for stockmen's use will be available.

It has come to the attention of this office that a limited quantity of flares are available for use by the sheepmen for the lambing season to assist in keeping predators out of the herds. These may be obtained through supply houses or possibly through local channels.

Although the ammunition situation is far from being solved, everything possible is being done to improve it. Suggestions and comments as to conditions in your section will be appreciated.

Utah's Bounty Law

THE bounty bill (H. B. 95) introduced in the Utah state legislature at the request of the Utah Wool Growers Association lacked only the signature of the Governor to make it a law as the Wool Grower went to press (March 11).

As the measure passed both houses of the Utah law-making body, a 25 mill levy will be made on sheep and a 10-mill levy on turkeys to provide the following bounties: \$6 on coyotes and \$15 on wolves and mountain lions.

Secretary Hooper of the Utah Association also reports that the State Fish and Game Commission has agreed to add \$15,000 annually to the bounty fund.

Payment of bounties will not commence until March 1, 1944.

The cooperative work with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior will continue on the same basis as in the past; that is, sheepmen will continue to pay the 5-mill levy for that type of predator control. This cooperative fund is also to be augmented by a payment of \$5,000 from the State Fish and Game Commission.

Increased Grazing Allotments

A PRESS report out of Washington on March 14 states that the Department of the Interior may increase the numbers of livestock permitted to be grazed in the Taylor Grazing Districts.

Secretary Ickes is reported as stating, in a letter to Senator Robertson of Wyoming, that he believes the carrying capacity of the grazing lands "has been so restored that they will now permit an increase in sheep and cattle of about 10 per cent in order to provide additional supplies of meat and wool. Of course, it is realized that, in placing this program into effect, the closest cooperation with the western stockmen will be necessary, as there will be many areas where increased stocking will not be possible and some areas where stocking will be possible beyond 10 per cent."

It is understood that the Forest Service has also been asked to take similar action as an aid to increasing meat production.

More Canned Goods for Sheep Herders

STATE rationing offices have received word from the Office of Price Administration that an amendment to Ration Order 13 is under way to permit a more liberal allowance of processed goods to sheep herders, shearing crews, miners, and other persons similarly situated.

All persons claiming hardships by reason of the canned goods allotment are to apply on O.P.A. Form R-315 to local boards who may, if they find hardships to exist, issue point certificates accordingly. Therefore, sheep

herders and others eligible to more points may now use all stamps A, B, and C, in anticipation of the relief that is to be granted under the amendment. It is reported the amendment order when it comes out will allow each herder 1.3 pounds of processed foods per day.

Bill on Wool Parity

A BILL which would change the base period for determining parity prices of cotton, wool, mohair and several other farm crops to from July 1, 1919, to July 1, 1929, was introduced by Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma on March 1, according to the Daily News Record for March 3. The proposed prices would reflect current costs of all labor as contrasted with all farm labor costs during the base period. The present parity base period is that of August 1909 to July 1914.

The change in the base period proposed by Senator Thomas' bill would advance the parity price of wool, it is estimated, from about 28 cents plus, at present, to around 34 cents plus.

Another bill recently introduced in the U. S. Senate by Senator Thomas aims at the solution of the wool stockpile problem by providing that all agricultural commodities owned or acquired by the federal government shall be part of a war and peacetime reserve not to be sold by any federal agency, except as Congress may later provide.

More on Ammunition

CONDITIONS are changing so rapidly these days, it is difficult to keep readers posted up to the minute on important problems. However, definite plans have now been announced for the distribution of the limited amount of ammunition supplied from the Salt Lake Area, which includes southern two thirds of Idaho, all of Utah, eastern two thirds of Nevada, and a small western strip of Wyoming.

These particular sections are going to have a "controlled plan" of distribution while, but only while, supplies are limited as drastically as they are now. Under this plan, only stockmen, turkey, and chicken producers and farmers may secure shells for protection

of their livestock from predators and their crops from rodents. In order to secure ammunition from a dealer, an application must be filled out in triplicate and approved by one of the following men in the various states:

Utah—James A. Hooper, 408 Beneficial Life Building, Salt Lake City; Elton L. Jones, 335 North First West Street, Cedar City; A. D. Allen, room 210 Post Office Building, Logan; A. W. McKinnon, Carbon-Emery Bank, Price; Abe Hansen, 275 North Second West, Richfield; Fenton S. Gardner, Delta; Don Clyde, Heber City; George Swan, Kayville; J. W. Johnson, Manti; J. Usher Henrich, Panguitch; J. Harold Reader, Vernal.

Idaho—James Farmer, 1021 North Sixth Street, Boise; Leon Contor, 177 Fourth Street, Idaho Falls; George Howell, Box 407, Salmon; A. H. Brailsford, 161 Ninth Avenue, North Twin Falls; Merle L. Drake, Challis; J. H. Dredge, Malad; Paul Montgomery, Mountain Home; Angus MacRae, Paul; D. Sid Smith, Shoshone; H. L. Finch, Soda Springs; Eph Ricks, Sugar City; H. B. Soulen, Weiser.

Wyoming—O. E. Brandbury, Evanston; Tommy Rogers, Green River; Clifford P. Hansen, Jackson; J. A. Reed, Kemmerer; John W. Hay, Jr., Rock Springs.

Nevada—Gordon Griswold, Mark W. Menke, C. H. Reinken, and A. R. Torgerson, Elko; D. A. Hughes and Doyle C. Robinson, Elko; and Arthur Carter, Lund.

The allocations will be made only to those who have in their possession guns of the caliber for which ammunition is available. The types and amounts available at present to any one applicant for a three months' period are as follows:

100 rounds of .22 long rifle cartridges, 40 rounds of 30-30's, 40 rounds of 30-06's, and 50 rounds of 12-gauge shotgun shells. These latter shells are available only in No. 4 regular and No. 00 buckshot.

Application blanks may be secured from the stockmen listed above, retail dealers, county agents, and livestock associations.

A report from Washington this morning (March 15) indicates that there soon should be "plenty of 30-30 and 30-06 ammunition available," and that some 25-35's should be available in about three weeks, and some 32-20, some 35 Remington, and some 351 Winchester.

Give to the Red Cross

MARCH has been designated as American Red Cross Month. Sheepmen will want to contribute to the limit in making it possible for this organization to carry on its great variety of relief work for both the armed forces and civilians. This is just a reminder, in case the matter has slipped your mind.

The Wool Market

CURRENT wool business on Summer Street is confined almost entirely to foreign wools. Specifications on government contracts no longer require the exclusive use of domestic wool. Manufacturers now enjoying a free hand naturally turn to Australian fine wool which is fully 16½ per cent cheaper than domestic. In fact, some manufacturers claim that domestic fine wool would have to sell for about 5@7 cents per grease pound less than the prevailing market in order to compete with Australian wools at the present landed duty paid price.

Large orders have recently been placed in Australia for fine wool due to its low cost in comparison to domestic wools. Strange to say, Australian authorities have given voice to some criticism of the wool trade for their failure to buy more wools in Australia. Little difficulty is experienced in securing shipping permits from Australia to the United States, for ships loaded with men and munitions for Australia are eager to secure a cargo of wool for the return voyage. This is a factor never before noted in the importation of wool.

Scattering government orders are being placed that require a minimum amount of wool. Awards have recently been made for 3,750,000 units of underwear composed of 25 per cent wool. Current government business also includes some Baratheia cloth sufficient for the manufacture of 90,000 jackets, a like number of skirts, and 46,500 capes for Army nurses. These are minor so far as the use of domestic wool is concerned, for the chances are they will be let with provisions not to exceed 50 per cent domestic wool.

Rumor persists that the stockpile of Australian wool will soon be released for domestic consumption. This report, persistent though it may be, we believe to be without foundation. Nevertheless, it has had a very detrimental effect upon the fine-wool market. This factor, of course, is one of the reasons why negotiations are now under way for the purchase of the 1943 domestic wool clip by the Department of Agriculture, which is covered fully elsewhere in this issue.

It is reported, upon good authority, that orders will be forthcoming during the remainder of this year for 21 million blankets. This would seem to assure the use of the medium portion of our domestic clip even if the speci-

cations provide for the use of 50 per cent foreign and 50 per cent domestic. It is believed that fine wool is in a much weaker market position than medium.

The limitation of the use of all types of wool for the manufacture of civilian requirements still exists although recently liberalized by releasing 75 million pounds more wool for this purpose. Agitation exists for the allocation of clothing to civilian requirements. It is difficult to understand why any allocation of clothing would be necessary when there is almost a billion pounds of stockpile wool now stored in the United States, a domestic clip of 500 million pounds just around the corner, and additional quantities of Australian wool arriving continuously.

An embargo on fine wools has been placed upon shipments from the Argentine. Only wools ranging in grade from 40s to 58s (¾ grade) can now be imported into the United States from that country. This may be in retaliation for their failure to affiliate themselves with the Allies, but is done ostensibly because of the absence of adequate shipping facilities. In the meantime, the purchase of the Uruguayan medium grade wools by the United States is progressing. It is understood that 3500 bales, or 3,500,000 pounds, are now enroute to the United States.

It is estimated that the Quartermaster General's office now has enough serge to manufacture 30 million uniforms. Evidently this forms the basis of the pessimism in regard to the future value of fine wool, which we consider unwarranted.

The Canadian Government is the latest addition to the countries guaranteeing the market to their wool-growing industry. The Australian authorities are seriously considering inviting New Zealand and South African wool representatives to Australia for the purpose of conferring on the possibility of extending the wartime wool appraisement scheme to the postwar period. In the opinion of those in authority, such an extension would stabilize the wool industry of Australia by insuring satisfactory prices, consistent supply, and far less speculation. If this plan materializes, there would be no auctioneering of the wool clips in the future. This is a very interesting development inasmuch as the Australian auction system has always been cited as the ideal method of selling

wools. It is evident, however, that many customs we thought were sound and well established will be sharply revised in the postwar readjustment period.

Insufficient domestic wool is changing hands to make a market. In fact, about all activity on Summer Street is devoted to discussions of the probable mechanics on the take-over proposition.

A few contracts on the sheep's back have been made, principally in Idaho, of wools running well to the medium grades. Some of the mills are still short of medium wool against blanket contracts taken month ago based upon the use of domestic wools. The market has been bare of medium wools for many weeks and the contracts to date are evidently made for the purpose of supplying this immediate need. One year ago at this time in excess of 100 million pounds of wool on the sheep's back was under contract against probably three million pounds at the present time.

C. J. Fawcett

Sales of Wool

SCATTERING sales of wools and contracts for delivery at shearing time are reported.

Arizona sales are reported at 40 to 44 cents for fine clips ready for shipment. Numerous sales of shorn wools have been made at Bakersfield, California. These are also fine wools, some being defective on account of burrs. The prices have run from 35 to 40 cents.

A considerable weight of 8-months' Texas wools has been contracted by a Boston firm, said to be for a mill having large Navy contracts. Prices were reported as being close to what was paid last year.

In Idaho one large clip of crossbred wools, to be shorn in March, was sold at 41 3/8 cents, which was 3 cents above 1942. Forty-four cents is reported to have been offered for other Idaho crossbred clips to be shorn in March.

A few sales are reported from Wyoming at figures above last year.

The status of these transactions as they may be affected by a government general purchase order is in doubt. Officials seem to think that the Commodity Credit Corporation would have power to abrogate uncompleted contracts outstanding on the date of the purchase order.

1943 Livestock Estimates

THE number of all sheep in the United States declined 3 per cent in 1942 as compared with 1941, the first time since the sheep population began a steady climb from 1937, the Department of Agriculture reports in its release of February 18, 1943.

"The largest part of the decrease in stock sheep is in ewe lambs kept for breeding ewes. The average value per head of all sheep on January 1, 1943 is \$9.68, an increase of \$1.07 from a year earlier, and the highest since 1929. The total value of all sheep, \$533,327,000, is up \$45,000,000 from a year earlier, and was the highest value of all years," the report states.

The number of cattle on farms January 1, 1943, increased 4 per cent over last year, and is the largest number on record. The average value of all cattle on January 1, 1943, of \$69.66 is up \$14.58 from a year earlier, and is the highest value ever reported. The total value of all cattle is \$5,445,098,000 according to the report of the department.

A new all-time record of 73,660,000 hogs on farms January 1 is estimated by the department. This number reflects an increase of 22 per cent over a year earlier, which was 60,377,000 and is 6 per cent above the previous record of 1923. The average value per head January 1 of \$22.54 is up \$6.92 from a year earlier, and the highest ever reported. The total value as of January 1 is \$1,660,652,000 which exceeds the previous record value of 1919 by about 235 million dollars.

The following table gives the num-

ber of stock sheep, and a comparison of the numbers of all sheep and lambs and all cattle and calves on farms in the twelve western states and Texas for January 1, 1942 and January 1, 1943.

All of the 13 states show a decrease in sheep population for January 1, 1943, with the exceptions of South Dakota and Texas, the total decrease being 4 per cent. These 13 states contained 65.8 per cent of all sheep in the United States on January 1, 1943. All of the states in the table show the same or an increase in cattle numbers with the one exception of Arizona, and a total increase of 3 per cent over a year earlier.

A break-down into classes shows where the greatest decreases occurred.

Break-down of Total Sheep Numbers in United States

Classes	1942 Thousands	1943 Thousands	% 1942
Ewe Lambs	7,947	7,012	88
Wether and Ram Lambs..	1,788	1,632	91
Ewes 1 year old and over	37,720	37,335	99
Rams 1 year old and over	1,455	1,449	100
Wethers 1 year old and over	897	880	98
Total Stock Sheep.....	49,807	48,308	97
Number on Feed.....	6,928	6,781	98
All Sheep and Lambs..	56,735	55,089	97

This report shows that the greatest percentage of decrease is in the number of ewe lambs saved for breeding purposes, which is down 12 per cent. The number of wether and ram lambs decreased 9 per cent, and breeding ewes, one per cent.

The numbers of sheep and lambs on feed show a decrease of 2 per cent over a year earlier.

Sheep and Cattle Numbers, January 1, 1943

	Stock Sheep			All Sheep and Lambs*			All Cattle and Calves		
	1942 Thousands	1943 Thousands	% 1942	1942 Thousands	1943 Thousands	% 1942	1942 Thousands	1943 Thousands	% 1942
Arizona.....	752	740	98	762	748	98	980	911	93
California.....	2,977	2,828	95	3,073	2,936	96	2,512	2,537	101
Colorado.....	1,889	1,795	95	3,004	2,615	87	1,586	1,649	104
Idaho.....	1,858	1,635	88	2,068	1,799	87	856	882	103
Montana.....	3,853	3,545	92	4,193	3,865	92	1,389	1,486	107
Nevada.....	732	695	95	755	716	95	406	406	100
New Mexico.....	2,103	2,019	96	2,248	2,162	96	1,283	1,314	102
Oregon.....	1,577	1,372	81	1,637	1,414	86	1,073	1,127	105
South Dakota.....	2,064	2,126	103	2,381	2,492	105	1,939	2,133	110
Texas.....	10,332	10,435	101	10,552	10,677	101	7,444	7,518	101
Utah.....	2,470	2,346	95	2,645	2,471	93	472	472	100
Washington.....	583	548	94	637	598	94	917	990	108
Wyoming.....	3,654	3,581	98	3,934	3,781	96	885	947	107
Total 13 States.....	34,844	33,665	97	37,889	36,274	96	21,747	22,372	103
Total United States.....	49,807	48,308	97	56,735	55,089	97	75,162	78,170	104

*Includes lambs on feed.

New Farm Deferment Regulations

THE Selective Service announced in the press on March 8, the following four new regulations on draft deferment of agricultural workers:

(1) When a man is granted deferment for farm work local boards have "no further discretion" and must keep him deferred. This makes the local board unable to meet its quota for the armed services the military call "should be left unfilled."

(2) Any man with farming experience now in other work is to get farmer deferment if he returns to farming before he is notified to appear for induction.

(3) A farm worker in danger of losing his deferment through failure to meet production requirements must be referred to the county farm board and 30 days must be allowed for his placement in another farm job before he can be drafted.

(4) County farm boards may request the deferment of farm workers or appeal draft board rulings if the worker himself or his employer does not act.

As announced in last month's Wool Grower, sheep shearing has been included as a critical occupation in agriculture, making shearers eligible for deferment.

Farm Machinery

THE War Production Board, in its amendment of Order L-170, February 12, liberalized to some extent quotas for farm machinery production.

The War Letter of the Department of Agriculture says:

Among other measures, the changes (1) remove from restrictions of the order bee hives, farm gates, feed trucks, grit boxes, hog troughs, laying nests, milk stools, poultry waterers and feeders, and livestock feeders, where these items are made of non-critical materials; (2) permit manufacturers to make stanchions, stalls, and livestock pens from re-rolled steel; (3) make it possible to include items of harness hardware used for replacement and repairs within the repairs quota. This means that harness hardware may be produced at about 120 per cent of the quantity produced during the base period; (4) permit manufacturers of barnyard items such as feed, litter and hay carriers, cattle stalls and stanchions and fittings, who have not been assigned production quotas, to construct a limited amount of such equipment for repair and maintenance; (5) bring water well casings of the type commonly manufactured from steel sheets and used in the construction of water wells for irrigation or other farm purposes under terms of the amended order, and set a quota of 85 per cent of the base rate for all manufacturers.

Meat Control Plan

ALL edible meats will be rationed about April 1, according to reports received from the Office of Price Administration. Ration book No. 2, which has now been issued, will be used for the purchase of meat in addition to canned goods. Under the "voluntary rationing," which has been in effect for some time, the variety meats such as liver, kidney, heart, tripe, brains, etc., were not included in the request for curtailment of meat consumption to two and one-half pounds per person each week.

It is understood that with point rationing beginning April 1, or thereabouts, the quota will be cut to one pound and three-quarters per person on the average, and the variety meats will be included. It should be understood that the amount of meat one person may purchase per week will be dependent upon the point values for the particular kind and cut desired, so that it may be possible to purchase more or less than the pound and three-quarters.

The selling of meat by some packers and retailers at prices above government ceilings, together with the exceeding of slaughter quotas, has caused much concern in various sections of the country. These conditions have existed mainly on the east and west coasts and some of the large centers in the Middle West.

The Office of Price Administration has made investigations of these "black market" conditions, with the result that charges have been brought against a rather large number of retailers and slaughterers in some localities. In other instances, meat markets have been closed because of the inability to secure meat supplies under the O.P.A. ceilings.

It must be remembered, however, that there are other reasons why rationing on a point basis must be put into effect: (1) 30 per cent of cattle and hogs slaughtered, based on 1941 slaughter, must go to supply our war needs, and 25 per cent of the lamb and mutton,—indications now are that the war program will take between 35 and 40 per cent of the slaughter of meat animals in the future; (2) the Bureau of Animal Industry report shows that fewer cattle, calves, and hogs were slaughtered in January, 1943, than in the same period a year ago, and only in the case of sheep did

the numbers increase. All animals, with the exception of hogs, were marketed at lighter weights in January. These conditions tend to reduce available meat supplies for civilian consumption and add "fuel" to the present trouble.

Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown announced on March 4 specific dollar-and-cents ceilings at retail for pork products. Heretofore, price ceilings on pork varied with each retailer, based on prices charged last March. Under this new order, ceilings would be uniform for each retailer in one area, on each of 66 principal pork cuts.

It is felt that this method of pricing will eliminate "unjust price squeezes" and also aid in the elimination of illegal selling of pork above price ceilings.

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, in his report March 5, set forth the plan of his department for rigid meat control. The purpose of the plan is twofold: (1) to wipe out illegal meat operations, and (2) to insure a fair division of civilian meat supplies.

"Not only does the black market disrupt the orderly distribution of meat, it actually cuts down on the total supply," Mr. Wickard said. "Black market operators waste lots of good meat and by-products of livestock because they lack facilities to handle animals as they should be handled. Now, of all times, we cannot afford to waste meat or hides, lard and fat, or anything else."

The Secretary indicated three types of black markets: (1) the packer and retailer who sells above ceiling prices; (2) the operator who diverts meat from the regular channels, and (3) the slaughterer who kills and sells more than his quota allows.

Tied in with the O.P.A.'s efforts to enforce price ceilings, the control plan as explained by the Secretary would provide: (1) that all livestock slaughterers, including farm and local slaughterers, must operate under a permit system by which all meat slaughtered by each individual would bear his permit number which would be placed on each wholesale cut; (2) that all livestock dealers must have permits to buy and sell meat, and must keep records of their entire operations; (3) and that slaughterers under federal inspection must provide certain definite percentages of their slaughter for war use.

Licensing becomes effective April 1, and the assignment of percentages for war use is effective immediately.

(A more detailed discussion of this order appears elsewhere in this issue.)

Mr. Wickard stated that he would not go so far as to say that the present plan would be 100 per cent effective against black markets, but he felt that it was a step in the right direction.

The Big Farm Scrap Drive

THE big Farm Scrap Drive is on. A 3-million-ton goal has been set for July 1, which means about 1000 pounds per farmer. That seems like a lot of scrap, but 17,500 tons of scrap goes into the construction of one 35,000-ton battleship; 5,000 tons into one 10,000-ton heavy cruiser; 3,750 tons into one 7,500-ton light cruiser; 500 tons into one 1,000-ton destroyer, and 10,000 tons of scrap into one 20,000-ton aircraft carrier. So if California meets her suggested quota of 66,500 tons, she'll be providing the scrap for three battleships, one aircraft carrier and eight destroyers. Wyoming, with a 7,500-ton goal, will help in the building of one heavy cruiser and five destroyers.

Heavy farm scrap is much better and so necessary for steel production that the great pools of miscellaneous household scrap gathered last fall must wait to be joined by heavy scrap in the mills before it can be used. Obviously, broken, useless plows, harrows, rakes, gears, flywheels, tractor parts, wheel rims are of heavier, better quality and more desirable than the miscellaneous pieces which the average household yields, and which must undergo more preparation before they can be used by mills.

In Utah the State Salvage Committee is offering to send crews of men with trucks to the farms within the state to dismantle heavy farm scrap. Under this plan the farmer will be permitted to retain any part of the dismantled machinery that he thinks necessary to keep his present equipment in order. We are not familiar with the programs in other states, but assurance is given that by contacting the local, county or state salvage committees assistance can be obtained in the handling of your heavy scrap.

IMPROVING RAMBOUILLET SHEEP For Western Ranges

By Julius E. Nordby, Director
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U. S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho

THE western range country is a vast area comprising mountain and plateau, desert and plain, and semi-desert, each with its peculiar topography, altitude, temperature, rainfall and soil. Extremes in climate vary from severe winter storms, in which temperatures drop to forty or more degrees below zero, to extremely arid conditions where water and feed are relatively scarce and where summer temperatures often rise well above 100 degrees. Between these extremes can be found almost any combination of climatic and feed conditions as they variously affect range sheep husbandry.

There are approximately thirty-three million sheep in the western range areas. This number comprises two thirds of the total sheep population in the United States. These range sheep are, in the main, fine-wools which are essentially of Rambouillet origin, or a combination of fine-wool and coarse-wool breeding.

Sectional Differences

In Range Fine-Wools

Within the fine-wool population of the West there are some sectional differences in size, mutton qualities, and in the quantity and grade of wool produced. These are often referred to as sectional type differences. It should not be inferred, however, that these are altogether heritable differences. Fine-wools that are located in the areas where lush feed is produced are generally somewhat larger and produce more wool and lambs than those in the areas where feed is not so lush. As a rule, in areas where feed is sparse the ewes are relatively smaller and generally produce a shorter and finer fiber than ewes in areas with lush feed. In general, selections for productive qualities are usually based upon the response of these qualities to the environment at hand, and environment varies sufficiently so there is considerable reason for some type differences in the fine-wool producing

sections. These type differences primarily concern body size and the type of wool as that is influenced by environment and selection.

Rambouillet Type

Usefulness in general determines type. Type might well be defined as that combination of qualities that makes the animal most useful for the

wools, he often tries to satisfy his desire by injecting crossbred influence—the practice of which may not be uniformly successful in areas of sparse feed where the fine-wool ewe is better adapted. There are, however, some object lessons in the western whitefaced crossbred that may well illumine the way when the matter of



A group of rugged, heavy wool-producing range Rambouillet ewes starting out on the range with their two-day old twin lambs.

purpose for which it is produced. The Rambouillet stud and range ram breeders are in general in agreement on this point with the ranchman, whose success is in very large part in proportion to the usefulness of the sheep he operates. With this condition prevailing, there should be relatively few bottlenecks in the effort to improve the usefulness of Rambouillet sheep for range production. It is the ever-deepening urge for uniformly high quantity and quality lamb and wool production that motivates the ranchman. If in a fine-wool area he is unable to satisfy that urge and economic need, by finding enough rugged, smooth, open-faced, heavy producers of quality wool and lambs in the fine-

usefulness in range fine-wools is under consideration. The appreciation for fine-wools will assuredly grow in the proportion in which we shall be able to increase usefulness through the production of large, smooth, open-faced, good lamb producers that carry a heavy, uniform, quality fleece.

Whatever definition may be made of type in the Rambouillet, there are some characteristics of this breed which contribute basically to it, but cannot easily, if, indeed at all, be represented in any definition of type. The ability to adapt itself to extremes in climatic and feed conditions, and the relatively long life of Rambouillet sheep are important. The value of the latter is too often underestimated in

*The Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory is a regional laboratory organized as a cooperative institution in which the agricultural experiment stations of the eleven far western states and Texas, and the United States Department of Agriculture are cooperating.

the economics of range sheep husbandry. These two inherent qualities of this breed should be recognized as the basic requirements of any breed that must sooner or later come to the economic rescue of the ranchman who is operating in marginal areas where there are alternately good and bad feed conditions which often bring trouble for the large crossbred ewe.

Opportunity for Improvements Basically Encouraging

There is inherent in the Rambouillet breed the ability to adapt itself to a very wide range of environmental conditions and to live long. These are fundamental attributes now common to the breed. Records subsequently

improvement in those qualities which contribute to thickness and smoothness in lambs that are free from skin and neck folds, and likewise free from wool blindness. Where feed conditions are adequate, staple length can also be improved materially and the total yield of quality wool increased without impairing lamb production. These opportunities lend much encouragement, and within them lies a stimulating hope for improvement in the breed.

Interdependence of Ranchman and Breeder

The ranchman who is concerned with the production and improvement of fine-wool flocks has, generally speaking, two courses to follow. He can cull the low producers and thereby increase the productive value of his flock. If the production of the flock is low, encouraging progress can be made for some years by systematic culling. But, as average production increases, continued culling brings less and less response. Further improvement must henceforth be sought primarily in the choice of rams. And herein lies a very close and significant interdependence between the ranchman and the breeder of range and stud fine-wool rams. Beyond the progress that is the result of culling,—and that is limited,—the ranchman cannot possibly go unless the breeder of rams makes such progress possible. The breeder can do this by placing the greatest emphasis in his improvement program on those qualities that have measurable value under range production.

The Bureau of Animal Industry has been breeding Rambouillet sheep for some time at the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, with a view of making improvement in the economic characteristics such as size, thickness of body, freeness from body and neck wrinkles, freeness from wool

over the face, and for long, quality staple wool. The results of this effort have encouraged a more intensified breeding program as that is now organized in the Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory, which is coordinated with the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station. New facilities have been made possible through this coordination, which afford a very fundamental inquiry into breeding practices and their application to sheep improvement for utility characteristics under range conditions. Since the Rambouillet is essentially a range breed, it is the utility characteristics under range conditions that should determine the type in this breed, and it is by close adherence to this basic concept that the Rambouillet breeder must henceforth look for his opportunity.

Size in Rambouillets

Size in sheep, when measured in pounds of weight, can be modified in a comparatively short time by feed conditions. Such a change, however, is not fundamental. It merely serves to bring out the potential possibility for size expression when the proper feed conditions are available. To change the inheritance in sheep for size requires much time and very careful selection and breeding. When such a change is made, however, it is relatively stable. Weight that is in large part due to excessive finish and a fleece of more than 12 months' growth and which invariably carries an abnormal amount of grease, should not be used as a safe criterion in appraising a useful heritable size as that affects lamb and wool production under range conditions.

Influence of Size on Production

The following table shows the comparative productive value of ewes that differ in size, when that value is expressed in terms of average annual lamb and wool production:

Table 1—Comparative Value of Size in 303 Rambouillet Ewes When Expressed in Terms of Production of Wool and Lambs Under Range Conditions up to and including 5 Years of Age

Average 2-5 Year Body Weight Pounds	Number of Ewes	Fleece Weight in Pounds	Per Cent Lambs Weaned	Pounds of Lamb Weaned Per Ewe Bred*
119 and below.....	80	11.7	79.0	55
120 to 129	147	12.0	85	60
130 and above	76	11.9	97	69

*Weaning weights are taken of all lambs when the ram lambs have to be removed from the flock and should not be confused with pounds of production of lamb when wethers go to market, at which time the weights would be larger.



Rear view of a heavy-quartered, smooth Rambouillet ram lamb.



Rambouillet range ewe. Weight 145 pounds. Annual average production is 80 pounds of lamb and 4½ pounds of scoured fine combing staple wool. Fleece in picture has 10 months' growth. Picture taken two days after ewe lambled. Note open face, smooth body and good bone.

cited in this discussion show that there is definitely inherent in the breed the potential possibility of making marked



An open-faced Rambouillet ewe (left) and a wool-blind one. At the Dubois Station, open-faced Rambouillet range ewes have produced annually about 9 pounds more lamb and the same amount of wool, scoured basis, each year as the wool-blind ewes.

The group of largest ewes produced 25 per cent or 14 pounds of lamb more, as the yearly average, than did the group of smallest ewes. The ewes of medium size produced about 5 pounds of lamb more per year than the small ewes. The largest ewes weaned 17.5 per cent more lambs than the smallest ewes. The tendency for wool production to be relatively the same is due in part to the heavier lamb production of the larger ewes. Ewes which rear twins produce less wool the year they rear twins and the year after rearing twins than they produce the year in which singles are produced or the ewes are dry, prior to twinning. The lighter group of ewes had more dry years, and ewes produce more wool in the dry year than they produce in the year after lambs are raised.

The weighing and grading of 1,450 purebred range Rambouillet lambs at weaning time showed that the degree of fleshing increased consistently with the size of the lambs, as size was determined by weight. Size, ruggedness and thickness appear to be associated with finish in range Rambouillet lambs.

Weight in Rams and Ewes

Stud rams that were two years and over and bred to the purebred ewes at this Station in the fall of 1941 averaged about 200 pounds in weight in range condition. The maximum weight of any one ram was 232 pounds. No data are available on the weights of these rams in highly fitted condition because they are out in the open the year round and are not subjected to heavy grain feeding. The average

weight of 878 ewes, two and one-half years old and older before breeding in 1941, was 136 pounds. Scale, when associated with too much length of leg, may also be associated with lack of thickness. On the other hand, thickness if associated with a "squatty" sheep does not make for usefulness in range production. Range sheep must be able to travel. A useful sheep must be balanced in all qualities that contribute to the profitable production of lamb and wool under range conditions. It is a relatively easy matter to improve a breed for one character, but indefinitely more difficult and much more time-consuming to make improvement in all of the characteristics that are of value in commercial production.

Open Face Has Economic Advantage

Sheep that are wool-blind are usually trailing the band on the range and have no choice of feed other than the trampled feed and they meet with difficulty in getting to water. They are scarcely ever seen in the lead "topping" the feed. At marketing time, wool-blind lambs are usually in the thin end of the cut and have to be sold as feeders. In the feed lot they are, as a rule, timid and cannot compete with lambs of equal breeding that have full use of their eyes.

Production records of wool-blind ewes and open-faced ewes of the same breeding and operated under the same conditions over an extended period show that open-faced ewes produced approximately nine pounds more lamb each year than wool-blind ewes, and 4.4 pounds more than ewes that were

partially wool-blind. This difference in production came about even though the wool had been shorn away from the eyes of the wool-blind ewes (but not of the wool-blind lambs) three to four times each year, — a common range practice for wool-blind sheep. While the wool-blind ewes produced one-third pound more wool in the grease, both groups produced the same amount of clean wool. In a two-year study of about 400 Rambouillet yearling ewes, the open-faced ewes weighed about five pounds more after shearing than those that were wool-blind.

When open-faced rams are mated to open-faced ewes about one half of the offspring are open-faced and about one half have partially covered faces. When open-faced rams become available in appreciable numbers it will not be so difficult to establish the open-face character in a flock. The open face in Rambouillet sheep is not a guarantee of high wool production nor does it appear to be in conflict with it.

Wrinkles Have Little If Any Value

In the flocks of this Laboratory, smooth Rambouillets produce more length of staple and a more uniform fleece than those with wrinkles. While those with wrinkles produce a little more wool in the grease, there is no significant difference in the production of clean wool. Sheep that are smooth are much more easily sheared than are wrinkled sheep, and smooth lambs are more attractive to the feeder and to the lamb buyer than wrinkled lambs of equal quality. Sheep free from wrinkles usually have less grease and dirt in the fleece, are much less subject to fly trouble, and do not have the hairy fibers that are often associated with wrinkles.

It is probable, in flocks that have not been bred for smoothness, that the incidental smooth sheep in such flocks would not shear as much as the heaviest shearing wrinkled sheep in these flocks. Smoothness of body is not necessarily a guarantee of high wool production, nor does it appear to conflict with density and high wool production. Selection for smoothness should parallel selection for production.

Length of Staple Important

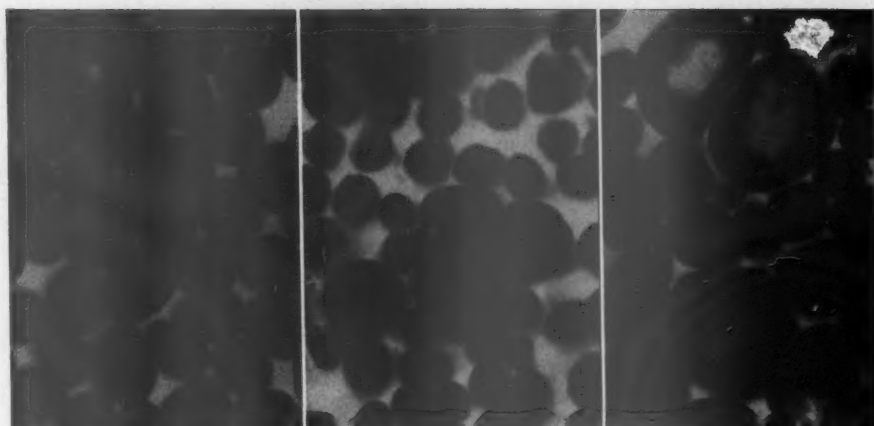
The yearling progeny from a group of ewes selected for staple length from a flock of approximately 900, have consistently produced fleeces measuring one third of an inch longer and

weighing .45 pound heavier in clean (scoured) wool, than have the progeny from the flock as a whole. One lot of 30 fleeces with a yearling staple length of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches had over $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lighter shrink and about three-fourths pound more clean wool per fleece, the same year and under the same conditions, than had a similar lot of wool produced by approximately the same number of ewes whose fleeces averaged 2 inches in length as yearlings. The body weight and degree of fleshing of the lambs from the long-staple group have been above the average for the lambs of the flock as a whole. These results tend to show that improvement in length and clean weight of wool can be accomplished by careful selection without interfering with body weight and early maturing qualities.

In selecting for length, we must not overlook density. While a long fleece tends to feel looser than a short fleece, the standard for judging density in a fleece must not be lowered out of proportion, even though it carries some extra length. As we increase the length of the fleece, we must be especially mindful of density on the back of the sheep, not only because density in this area influences total yield of wool, but because of the necessary protection the denser fleece affords against storms. Wool on the belly should be observed for the same reasons. If heavy wool covering on the legs of range sheep has any measurable value, that has yet to be determined.

Quality in Wool

While volume in wool production is of primary interest to the producer, he is also interested in quality, insofar as that is influenced by length, strength, uniformity of fibers and softness,—characteristics that have merchandising value. A fleece which has these characteristics highly developed usually has satisfactory crimp and is bright and "lofty." It may seem now that the market does not recognize quality in wool enough to make it consistent with the breeder's effort to improve for quality. (The term "quality" is used throughout this paper to express excellency of product.) However, it does not appear advisable to let inadequacies in the present marketing appraisal of grease wool serve as a barrier to progress in improving wool. We must continue our effort to make improvement in a commodity which is rapidly and surely meeting increased



Wool fibers should be uniform (left) in cross-section and not vary in diameter as the variable (center) and medullated (right) samples above. Uniformity in fibers adds to the spinning quality of the wool. The medullated or "hollow" fibers do not take the dye so well as the solid fibers, nor do they have the elasticity and wearing qualities of the solid fibers.

competition with quality products from both natural and artificial sources. This point should at least not be overlooked, as a critical demand for quality may come to the industry in the United States on relatively short notice. Perhaps no one now is willing to predict the effect which international post-war trade relations may have by way of forcing quality into the picture as an important item in competition. But there can be no economic loss to the industry to begin now to prepare for meeting competition in quality production.

Shrinkage in Wool

Low shrinkage contributes to the appearance and, therefore, to the salability of wool. However, we must not permit our enthusiasm for low shrinkage to come into conflict with the actual pounds of wool in a fleece. It is high clean yield of wool and not low shrinkage that is of primary concern, even though the latter is very desirable. High total production of wool per sheep should not be neglected in the effort to produce light shrinkage, because, after all, we are interested in profitable range sheep husbandry, which is basically influenced by quantity production of quality wool.

Inasmuch as records at this Laboratory show very definitely that increased length of wool is of primary importance in increasing weight of clean wool per fleece, when density is maintained, it follows that as we are successful in increasing length of staple, the shrinkage becomes proportionately lighter. This statement may not apply so uniformly to wool pro-

duction under farm conditions in which case the production of yolk is generally higher than it is under range conditions.

From 1938 to 1941 inclusive the wool from the yearling Rambouillet ewes at this Laboratory which had a staple length of 2 inches had a shrinkage of 63 per cent, whereas that which had a staple length of 3.4 inches had a shrinkage of only 55 per cent. The difference in shrink is 8 per cent. When wool is selling for \$1.00 per pound scoured basis, then each difference of one per cent in shrink means one cent difference in grease price per pound. If, in the above case, the shrinkage of the long staple wool had been estimated at 63 per cent, it would have brought 8 cents per pound or 85 cents per 10-pound fleece below its actual grease value. Shrinkage values are important in selling wool!

Fineness of Rambouillet Wool

There is some difference of opinion as to the fineness that should characterize the Rambouillet fleece, and it is not uncommon to find variations as low as 58's-60's ($\frac{1}{2}$ blood), and rather common to find a goodly number of fleeces in the high 70's (strictly fine). Although a narrower range would seem desirable with reference to uniformity within any one flock, this range in the breed as a whole does afford an opportunity for selection. One or the other extreme in range of fineness is of value when sectional adaptability with reference to economics as well as to environment is of concern. Fleeces even down in the low 60's are desirable so long as there is

ample length and strength of staple, uniformity in fiber diameter and quality. In a few cases there is a preference for 58's to 60's, when quality can be maintained, on the ground that the "stronger" fleeces are associated with increased length and higher production. It must, however, not be overlooked that this represents the coarser variation in Rambouillet wool and is generally more associated with hairiness than is variation toward the finer grades; hence, careful selection for uniformity of fiber diameter throughout its fleece is necessary.

It does not appear sound to encourage the production of the same fineness of fiber for the entire western range country even within the same breed. As the wool trade in this country becomes more and more discriminating, it will develop that we shall likewise become more and more interested in producing the type of wool which appears best adapted to those sections that have conditions which favor peculiarities in wool type.

Lamb Production

In an effort to increase lamb production, most emphasis should be placed upon those factors of performance which have the greatest bearing on profit. It is quite probable that the ranchmen would welcome as much effort on improving Rambouillets for lamb production as for wool production. In many areas about two thirds of the gross income is from the lambs and one third from the wool. In areas where fine-wools predominate, the gross income from wool usually exceeds one third of the total income. Improvement for length of staple and amount of clean wool is of particular concern in areas where the gross income from wool is about equal to the gross income from lamb production. Increased yield and improved quality may become a vital necessity should competition in fiber merchandising, foreign or domestic, or both, force an inventory of the merchandising appeal of our wool clip.

More width in the rib and loin, a fuller thigh and rump, a smoother pelt and an open face would materially strengthen the Rambouillet as a producer of feeder and market lambs. The vigorous, thick, growthy lamb usually finishes into a more acceptable market lamb than the narrow lamb, even though the rate of gains of the two types may not vary appreciably. Since rate of gain in weight is

closely associated with economy of gain, and rate of gain in lambs is in large part due to growth, the thrifty, rapidly growing lamb has considerable advantage over the more slowly growing kind. Records of sheep produced under range conditions at this Laboratory reveal clearly that selection for type, thickness, body weight and fleshing qualities need not conflict with a consistent effort to improve quantity and quality wool production. Environmental conditions under range production determine to a considerable degree the maximum effort that may be expended profitably by way of encouraging increased yields of wool and lambs. However, there is still room for profitable improvement in most of the range areas before environmental limits become serious obstacles.

Improved Method Used By This Laboratory

The improvement procedure at this Laboratory is based essentially upon the use of tested and proved rams. Obviously, all ewes are carefully evaluated and selected for the qualities that have merit in wool and lamb production. From 10 to 15 per cent of the ewe lambs are culled a few weeks after weaning. Culling continues each year in a flock regardless of rigid culling at weaning time. The following table shows data accumulated from

Weanling ram lambs are selected as ram prospects on the basis of their general type, size, weight, degree of fleshing, staple length, fleece density and character, soundness of body, ruggedness, smoothness, open face and other useful characteristics. As yearlings they are subjected to the same examination for wool before shearing, and for body conformation after shearing. A detailed laboratory examination is made of the fleece. This involves scouring a representative sample to obtain the clean yield of wool, and cross-sectioning representative wool samples to determine the uniformity of fiber diameter and the presence or absence of hairy, kempy and medullated or hollow fibers. The same examination of body fleece is repeated each year thereafter for all rams in the flock two years and older. This gives very full information on how rams "wear" as they increase in age under range conditions. With the facilities now available at this Laboratory these examinations can be conveniently and readily made.

Progeny Tests

While the above tests are responsible for eliminating a large number of rams as prospective studs, the most rigid test is the progeny test in which each of the reserved rams is mated to a group of representative ewes for

Table 2—Cause for Removing from Flocks 569 Rambouillet Ewes After Reaching the Yearling Age in a 15-Year Period

Cause for Culling	Per Cent of Total Culled	Range in Age When Culled (Years)	Average Age at Which Culling Took Place (Years)
Old age (poor teeth).....	33	5-10	7
Poor mutton type and small size.....	18	1-6	3
Fleece below standard	15	1-6	3
Excessive skin folds.....	5	1-6	3
Low lamb production.....	5	2-6	4
Unsoundness (principally udder).....	12	2-7	5
All others	12	1-6	3
	100		

569 Rambouillet ewes that were culled in a fifteen-year period and gives the causes for culling during that time and the percentage of total culls for each cause after the ewes reached the yearling age.

Approximately 25 per cent of the ram lambs born are saved as prospective sires in the main lines of breeding. At the yearling age only about one half of these are reserved, the most promising of which are tested for potential service in the thirty main breeding lines. And, finally, about 3 per cent of the original number are used one or more years as stud rams.

the purpose of determining his value as a sire. From 20 to 30 rams are tested in this way each year. Approximately one third of these qualify for trials in the main stud lines. Even though a ram is admitted for trial into a main stud line, his progeny are examined carefully each year. If he fails to qualify as a stud, he is replaced by another ram of the same line which has been qualified in the test flock. After a ram has been tentatively qualified as a stud ram, he retains that designation only so long as his annual progeny make him worthy of that designation.

Study of Sire Progeny

Some time after the lambs have straightened out from the change brought about by weaning, they are divided for observation into groups by sires. This is facilitated by putting the pen brand on the back of each lamb when it is weaned, at which time all lambs are handled individually. The lambs are now appraised individually and in groups, and the groups are rated on the basis of uniformity of body conformation, fleshing qualities, ruggedness, fleece, smoothness, open face and other useful characters.

Improvement Through Rams

Major emphasis is placed upon selecting rams for effecting improvement. Obviously, selection in ewes is important, and is not overlooked. It is time-consuming to make improvement in flocks that have already been developed to high production, if one relies too much on selection in the ewes. Noticeable progress in such flocks can be effected with practical and progressive results only by using rams that have proved their ability to effect improvement when mated to ewes of similarly high production efficiency.

Testing Purity of Useful Qualities Through Inbreeding

The breeding method that is in use involves various degrees of inbreeding. This method is obviously not new because it has been the means of producing a very large percentage of the most prepotent sires in all kinds of farm animals. True enough, it has been the cause of decline in some flocks and herds. This decline, however, is not due to inbreeding as such, but rather to the fact that the animals involved are not in themselves free enough from heritable defects and weaknesses to endure inbreeding.

Inbreeding is an exploratory procedure for testing the inheritance of animals. If they are fairly free from heritable defects, which involve inefficient growth, production and reproduction, then inbreeding will result in correspondingly few mediocre offspring. Inbreeding does not necessarily create anything new,—good or bad, but it does afford a means of concentrating either good or bad characters. Furthermore, it affords an opportunity for weaknesses to come to light if they are present in the individuals that are inbred. By means of its application

NEW NATIONAL RAM SALE RULES

The 28th National Ram Sale will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, August 24 and 25, 1943.

As a result of action taken by the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association in its annual meeting in Salt Lake City, on January 26, this year, rams consigned to the National Ram Sale must not be artificially colored, and rams of all breeds other than Rambouillets must be shorn on or after April 15 of the consignment year. The shearing rule does not apply to lambs. Similar rules are also being put into effect this year at the Idaho Ram Sale.

A questionnaire sent out last fall by the National Wool Growers Association revealed the fact that 81.4 of the 1942 consignors and 78.5 per cent of the purchasers did not favor the practice of artificial coloring of rams for the sale.

one can test very rigidly the purity of the inheritance which an animal possesses.

The heritable qualities which produce the useful characteristics in our farm animals tend to dominate in their expression over the undesirable qualities or weaknesses. By outcrossing, through the use of unrelated rams, the breeder can maintain enough good combinations to get reasonably satisfactory results. However, this system of breeding, which has been commonly practiced, maintains variability in the flock and too often for this reason the selection of good looking individuals for breeding use may give very disappointing results. In variable populations, individuals selected from the better part of the flock will, on the average, produce offspring that are only a little above the average of the flock from which they were selected, and in only very exceptional cases will outcrossing with selected individuals give offspring that are as good as the parents on the average. As stated above, the offspring will be nearer the average of the population from which the parents were selected. The practical breeder has had no other choice than to take a chance on unrelated sires because he could not afford to purify his flock with inbreeding and make adequate tests of sires while at the same time carrying on

commercial production. An inbreeding or line-breeding program, coupled with progeny testing of sires to select the outstanding breeders, is the basic method that is being used for improving sheep in the Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory program. Inbreeding, coupled with careful selection, should make it possible so to fix desirable characters in a line that they would be transmitted with relatively high uniformity when individuals from the line were mated with unrelated lines.

Procedure in Inbreeding

The Rambouillets at this Laboratory are now divided into thirty lines or breeding flocks. These are not all subjected to the same intensity of inbreeding. But they will all be sufficiently inbred to test the purity of their inheritance for useful qualities. As this proceeds from generation to generation, it is the plan to test them further for their usefulness by combining one line with another line, or to determine if such a combination gives rise to increased vigor and more uniform breeding qualities. The crossing of inbred lines with unrelated proved rams has already produced encouraging results.

A few lines of breeding that are under way have been organized for the purpose of intensifying special characteristics such as the open face, long staple, etc. When these lines become sufficiently established in these characteristics, matings will be planned with other lines which may be deficient in these characters so that they can be transferred to them. Obviously in all lines these and other useful characteristics are stressed as much as possible in the selection.

Thus, by operating under range conditions and selecting for the useful characteristics that are of concern in range production; by applying practical methods of measuring values in selection; by using progeny tests as a means of determining the value of rams; by dividing the flock into a large number of lines that are closely bred to make possible the concentration of useful inheritance and the elimination of inherent weaknesses, thereby making them more prepotent for useful characteristics, it appears reasonable to expect that some fundamental contribution can be made to the Rambouillet breed through the efforts of this Laboratory and the collaborating experiment station (see foot note page 1).

RANGE MANAGEMENT *Includes Big Game*

By G. D. Pickford
Pacific Northwest Forest
and Range Experiment Station

RANGE management to the average person means controlling the numbers and the distribution of livestock on a range so that the forage may be used evenly and properly over the entire area in the most effective production of meat and other animal products. This conception is sound. If followed in practice, it will result in stabilizing or improving range forage and livestock production, provided there is no important competition for the forage between big game and domestic livestock. However, if big game are present and if they graze the same areas and the same species as do the livestock, range management based solely on the demands of sheep or cattle for forage can only result in overuse of the range with all of its attendant ill effects. Unfortunately, the fact that big game animals eat important amounts of range forage has been overlooked or has been minimized by many who are dealing with the western range.

Forage production on a major portion of the range in eastern Oregon and Washington is badly curtailed as the result of past overgrazing. On some of these areas, particularly on certain mountainous summer ranges, the plant cover has become so sparse that erosion is actively sapping soil fertility and is endangering the future production of these important range lands. This situation is serious enough in ordinary times. With the world at war, it is a downright menace to the national meat and clothing supply to permit the forage crop on which range livestock subsist to dwindle.

Some recent studies by the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station reveal that a band of approximately 300 elk on one summer range allotment of the Whitman National Forest in northeastern Oregon consumes two thirds as much range forage as does a band of 900 ewes with their lambs during a three-month grazing season. Note that this statement concerns elk use of range forage and not of browse in dense timber



U. S. Forest Service Picture No. 401905

There is room for both elk and livestock on the summer ranges of eastern Oregon and Washington; but elk numbers and distribution must be controlled in common with livestock or else either range depletion or a reduction in range livestock must occur. If range depletion is permitted, then both elk and livestock numbers must eventually dwindle.

stands inaccessible to sheep. Many believe that big game animals obtain their chief forage supply in so-called waste range areas that are unused by livestock. The use of forage by elk referred to in the foregoing statement is in direct conflict with forage use by sheep.

The competition between elk and sheep proved to be even more intense when a comparison of their individual forage preferences revealed that the ten range plant species which made up four fifths of the sheep diet also made up four fifths of the elk diet. Furthermore, elk sedge, which potentially is the most important species on the allotment because of its abundant forage productiveness and its exceptional soil-binding qualities, formed a slightly larger portion of the elk diet than was the case for sheep.

In the allotment referred to, the condition of the range was found to

be so critical from a forage depletion and soil erosion standpoint that measures were deemed necessary to restore the area to a level where sheep grazing could be practiced without danger of further range deterioration. In the face of such heavy use by elk and because it was impossible to control elk numbers adequately under present hunting laws, it was decided to discontinue sheep grazing until such time as forage production had improved markedly and accelerated soil erosion was arrested. So summer forage for 900 ewes with their lambs had to be sought elsewhere in a region where there already is far less than enough summer range forage to go around.

The serious conflict between big game and livestock is not peculiar to this particular allotment. On the entire Whitman National Forest, for example, 26,300 cattle and 152,300 sheep were grazed in the summer of

1921. In 1941, cattle and sheep on the summer range had been reduced to 10,584 and 64,472 respectively in order to meet a marked decline in forage and soil values. Elk, which use the summer range at least two months longer than the established sheep or cattle season, are estimated to have increased on the forest from 360 head in 1921 to 13,000 head in 1941. Assuming that forage used by one cow is equivalent to that used by five sheep or one and one fourth elk, the livestock reduction program on the Whitman has been at least partially offset by an increase in elk numbers amounting to 10,112 cow units. Similar examples of dwindling livestock and increasing big game numbers may be cited elsewhere in Oregon, Washington, and other western states.

The worst aspect of this situation is that such a severe measure as closing areas to livestock when an increasing big game population is present does not insure a return to better soil and forage conditions. If the elk herd that is using the allotment previously referred to should double in size, which is not improbable judging from the rapid elk increases recently experienced on the Whitman and elsewhere in Oregon and Washington, the range forage use by elk soon will be about as heavy as it was originally when the 900 sheep and 300 elk were grazing the area. Under such use intensity, range conditions cannot possibly improve.

What is the answer to such a problem? Obviously it is the dual control of big game and range livestock numbers and seeing to it that the combined grazing load of both classes of animals is not in excess of the grazing capacity of the range. It also involves supporting the state game authorities in controlling the distribution of big game animals on the range by proper hunting measures and by other devices, since concentrations of big game are fully as damaging to the range as if livestock are improperly handled. In other words, range management means the proper number and proper distribution both of livestock and of big game animals.

There is room for both big game and livestock on the western range. That both should remain so that the land can produce a livelihood for the grazier, healthful sport and recreation for the outdoor lover, and food and clothing for the nation is an example

of the American way of life we are now fighting to maintain. To allow range depletion to continue, or to permit livestock to be crowded off the range, because big game numbers are not being controlled and utilized, however, is undesirable even in normal times. In wartime, when the nation needs every pound of meat, wool, and leather, it is indefensible to allow such a situation to exist.

New Mexico's 40th Annual Meeting

AS AT OTHER state conventions this year, the keen interest of wool growers in keeping production at a peak under wartime conditions was shown by an unusually large attendance at the 40th annual meeting of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association in Albuquerque, February 4 and 5.

On the first day the wool growers listened to the report of their organization's activities during the past year and of current problems affecting the industry by President Lee; to a discussion by C. J. Fawcett, manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, of some of the disturbing factors in the wool market situation; and to a stirring address by Governor John J. Dempsey, who criticized severely some phases of governmental activity, particularly the duplication of work by federal agencies.

They also heard a thought-provoking talk on the federal land policy by A. D. Brownfield of Deming. Asserting that from 1930 to 1939, federal real estate holdings in New Mexico had increased by 2,564,505 acres, or about 8.4 per cent, Mr. Brownfield declared that the land acquisition policy of the federal government, if continued, will "ultimately bring us to the end of the road, to a totalitarian state." The dire need of more land on the tax rolls to share the increasing burden of taxation is so great, that, in Mr. Brownfield's opinion, the federal land policy could be reversed, with the government selling rather than buying real estate. "It is quite probable," he said, "that suitable legislation can be had making it possible to put all single use federal grazing land in individual ownership and upon the tax rolls," with proper protection for the buyer against too high a purchase price and

too high a tax assessment value and rate.

The passage of such legislation was formally advocated by the New Mexico Wool Growers Association through the adoption of the report of the committee on public and state lands which condemned continued acquisition of privately owned lands by the federal government and asked for the passage of state and federal legislation which will "enable and encourage acquisition of the public lands by fee simple ownership at a fair price, measured by the normal and average productivity of the land, thereby not only stabilizing the industries of the state largely dependent upon the use of lands now in public ownership but adding to the valuation on the tax rolls for production of greater state and county revenues," and which will provide for "preferential right of purchase by the user of the land at time of offer for sale, under lease, license or permit."

In recent years the New Mexico organization has been cooperating with the New Mexico Agricultural College, the Extension Service and the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry in a flock improvement program, and this year the wool show, an annual event, and the wool school on the second day of the convention drew the closest attention of wool growers. Microscopic tests of all the fleeces entered in the show were run and enlarged photographs showing the relative fineness of the staple were available for study by the producers. Professor P. E. Neale, sheep and wool expert of the New Mexico Agricultural College, under whose direction the school was held, demonstrated a simplified method of determining shrinkage of wools. The use of a machine for eradicating head grub in sheep, developed by Dr. N. G. Gobbett of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry was demonstrated on live sheep; improvements in sheep husbandry were discussed by Mr. Brock of the Extension Service, and 4-H Club work by Mr. Wilson of the same service.

A 4-H Club entry, a Rambouillet fleece weighing 12 pounds and valued at \$1.22 per pound, was selected as the grand champion fleece in the wool show. President Lee purchased the fleece for \$100, and other prominent growers, bankers and marketing agencies paid similar amounts for seven other fleeces in the junior division of the sale, making \$850 available for

expansion of the 4-H Club work in 1943. Barbara Jean Wunch of Mesilla Park exhibited the grand champion fleece.

First-place winners in the senior division of the show were: Half-blood and three-eighths, Torreon Livestock Company, Roswell; purebred ram and ewe, New Mexico A. and M. College; range ram, Culley and Martin, Wagon Mound; staple 2½ inches and over, Diamond A. Cattle and Sheep Company, Roswell; fleece under 2½ inches, Ray Chambers, Clayton.

Convention Action

Floyd W. Lee was reelected president of the New Mexico Association for the 14th consecutive time; vice presidents Jess W. Corn of Roswell and James L. Hubbell of Datil were also reelected and Miss Isabel Benson was continued as secretary-treasurer.

An intensive membership drive for the coming year was planned by the executive committee of the association in its meeting after the convention, and dues set as follows: \$5 per annum for the first 500 sheep; \$10 per annum for owners having over 500 and up to 2,000 head; and \$2.00 for each 1,000 head in excess of 2,000.

The convention supported the action taken by the National Wool Growers Association in asking for outright purchase of the domestic wool clip by the government, and in favoring the elimination of quotas on livestock slaughter and the substitution of the ration and point system in retail marketing as a means of solving some of the present difficulties in meat distribution.

Other resolutions:

Condemned strikes, urged that regulation of the agricultural labor supply be placed with one agency only and that importation of labor from Old Mexico be made possible; and requested immediate cessation of all non-essential government projects.

Asked that grazing fees be collected on Indian livestock at the same rate as now charged for other livestock grazing on forest and public domain lands.

Reaffirmed opposition to relaxation of sanitary laws that might result in importation of animal diseases in the United States.

Urged that protein supplements be made available at once and in sufficient quantities as to insure continued maximum production of livestock.

Recommended that whenever an increase in the number of sheep to be grazed in the national forests is possible the increase be given to the permittee (on a percentage basis) from whom it was taken. Recommended a reduction in big game numbers on forests to their reasonable proportion of carrying capacity, so as not to interfere with or

reduce production of livestock; asked discontinuance of present Forest Service policy of making reductions for either protection or distribution in connection with sales and transfers; recommended coordination of all federal grazing agencies; opposed creation of any new national parks, etc., that might "preclude utilization of forage now consumed by livestock," and recommended passage of the Johnson bill providing for legalization of forest advisory boards.

Urged elimination of all unnecessary federal expenditures and opposed the payment of "any gift benefits, subsidies, or other forms

of gift payments by the Department of Agriculture to the farmers and ranchers of the country.

Recommended appropriation for continued cooperative predatory animal control work; asked that hunters and trappers be classified as essential agricultural workers by the Selective Service and that hunters and trappers be allowed access to all lands under jurisdiction of the federal government, including Indian reservations; and urged reduction of deer and elk on forest reserves and other grazing areas to supplement the meat supplies of the country.

Answering Wartime Problems of Production

By C. A. Connaughton
Colorado U.S.D.A. War Board

HOW can I continue to produce livestock in the face of all the limitations imposed by the war? Whom should I see to find out how these new regulations apply to my livestock business? Where should I go to get some assistance with my production problems caused by these wartime regulations? Whom do I see about building a new barn, getting a new truck, arranging for short-time credit, finding some labor, buying new farm machinery? Why doesn't the government centralize the administration of wartime regulations in one place?

These are typical questions on the tongue of every livestock man. He is ready and willing to produce. He knows how under peacetime conditions. In many cases, however, he doesn't know the way the wartime regulations influence his operation or who within his reach can inform him. He wants information and he wants one single point of contact with the originator of these regulations — the government.

Since Claude Wickard was designated "Food Administrator" on December 5, 1942, the Department of Agriculture is now the focal point of food production and distribution for the nation. This department is now the liaison between the livestock industry and other departments of the federal government where production and distribution are concerned. Secretary of Agriculture Wickard is the stockman's governmental representative in Washington; he will consider the problems of the industry and secure the answers. All know, however, that the Secretary of Agriculture cannot review personally every man's

problems. He knows this himself. And so for the convenience of food producers and distributors, and to aid the war effort to the utmost, he has established a local contact in every important food producing county in the nation. This local representation of the Department of Agriculture is known as the U.S.D.A. War Board, and its function is to serve the producer and provide the federal assistance needed to attain production goals.

These U.S.D.A. War Boards, which, incidentally, were organized long before Mr. Wickard was named food administrator, are the farmer's and stockman's contact with the government on production problems and they should be used as such. Specifically then, what are some of the things these boards can do to help the producer?

Permits for New Building Construction

A War Production Board order has been in operation for some time which, for any ranch in any one year, restricts all new residential construction to jobs costing less than \$200 and other construction to projects costing less than \$1000. If construction costing more than these amounts is necessary to production, a special permit can be obtained by applying through the local County U.S.D.A. War Board.

To follow this procedure an application, together with advice for completing it, should be obtained from the County War Board. When the application is completed it should be returned to this board, which in turn approves or disapproves it according to merit. If approved it reaches the War Production Board, which considers all pertinent factors, including the County War Board's recommenda-

tions, and either issues or rejects the permit.

All applications for ranch construction must be submitted first to the local County U.S.D.A. War Board.

Purchase of New Trucks

All new trucks, including pick-ups, are frozen in the hands of manufacturers, distributors, and dealers, and can be released only on a certificate of purchase issued by the Office of Defense Transportation. If a new truck is essential to ranch operation a certificate can be applied for through the County U.S.D.A. War Board.

The procedure requires that any application for a new truck to be used in food production must be submitted to the transportation committee of the County War Board. This committee makes its recommendations on the application according to merit. Final action on the application is taken by O.D.T. after due consideration of the County War Board recommendations.

In every case the first step in applying for a new truck should be to contact the local County U.S.D.A. War Board.

Purchase of Farm Machinery

Several weeks ago most farm machinery was frozen in the hands of dealers. Since then a mechanism for releasing this machinery to qualified producers on certificate of purchase has been perfected. The procedure requires that any producer needing machinery covered by the restriction order must make application to the farm machinery rationing committee of the County War Board. If the request is granted, a certificate of purchase is issued which authorizes the dealer, without any further approval, to release the equipment desired.

To obtain new farm machinery, therefore, contact the County U.S.D.A. War Board and make application.

Appeal on Gasoline Allowance for Trucks

When certificates of war necessity for operation of farm and ranch trucks were issued, it was recognized by O.D.T. that certain inequalities existed. In order to handle these difficulties as effectively as possible, a procedure was established wherein any producer could appeal his gasoline allowance to the transportation committee of the County U.S.D.A. War Board. This committee could offer the appellant

temporary relief and present the case for final approval to O.D.T.

Undoubtedly all urgent appeals under this procedure have already been made but if any producer should encounter difficulty with the gasoline allowance for his trucks in the future he should present his case to the local County U.S.D.A. War Board.

Securing Short-Term Credit

In order to provide adequate credit as aid to production, the County U.S.D.A. War Boards were authorized in January to accept applications for loans. This credit facility is primarily to take care of producer needs for rather small amounts of money for short periods. Sums up to \$2500 can be loaned directly by county approval and up to \$10,000 after review of the application by the next higher administrative level. Loans are not to exceed one year, but are subject to renewal. The interest rate is 5 per cent.

This service is not to supplant or destroy established credit sources, but, instead, it is designed to serve as a supplemental program and to place this production tool at the immediate disposal of the County War Board.

If a new source of credit is needed to aid production, contact the local County U.S.D.A. War Board.

Securing Labor

In late January all responsibility for recruiting and placing agricultural labor was transferred from the War Manpower Commission to the Department of Agriculture. Immediately the Department of Agriculture began to take action designed to aid and supplement the programs previously in operation. Very shortly these new plans will be crystallized and definite procedures will be developed and operating. Undoubtedly, all of the labor problems of livestock industry will not be solved immediately under this new organization but strides forward will be made.

Without knowing positively the trend of future events, therefore, it is safe to recommend that labor problems should be presented to local County U.S.D.A. War Boards and assistance requested in providing solutions.

Other Assistance

The above functions are only some of the many ways that local County

U.S.D.A. War Boards can assist livestock producers. In addition, these boards can advise and assist on any other problems of production. Assistance in obtaining priorities; providing information on price ceilings and supports; and aiding in securing all kinds of critical supplies needed for production are other functions of these county boards.

Where Are These Boards?

Undoubtedly many producers are already familiar with their County U.S.D.A. War Boards but, if not, they can get acquainted by contacting the office of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency (AAA) where the headquarters of the board are usually located. Most frequently these offices are at the county seat. The county agent is always on the board and can supply information. Other employees representing the various agencies of the U.S.D.A. in the county are also on the board and will provide assistance or information.

As time progresses the functions of the U.S.D.A. War Boards will vary because progress causes change. But irrespective of future changes in detail, these boards will still be able to provide the general service that livestock producers need, so don't hesitate to use them.

Montana Ewe Sales

THE Montana Wool Grower for March reports the following sales of ewes:

1,100 bred whitefaced coming two-year-old ewes at \$13 for delivery to New York State immediately.

900 five-year-old bred ewes for March 1 delivery, \$10.

1,400 blackfaced yearling ewes, for delivery out of shearing pens in July, \$12.50.

1,200 six and seven-year-old ewes, each with a February 1 lamb at side, \$11 to \$11.50, f.o.b. Oregon and Washington points (per pair) to be shipped to Montana.

1,000 two to six-year-old ewes with February 1 lambs at side, \$12.75 per pair f.o.b. Washington and Oregon points to go to Montana.

1,000 square-mouth ewes, March 1 delivery, bred for April lambing, \$10.

1,800 coming two-year-olds, for February delivery, \$13. Bred for May 1 lambing.

1,200 whitefaced coming two-year-old ewes bred for May 1 lambing, March delivery, \$14.75.

1,000 whitefaced ewes, mixed ages, February delivery, \$10.50.

TRYING TO HALT CLOTHES HOARDING

By F. E. Ackerman, Executive Director
American Wool Council

THE American Wool Council began its campaign against the program which has led directly to the present national wave of scare buying and hoarding of clothing shortly after Pearl Harbor and the rush of public utterances by newly appointed government representatives predicting a wool famine and the development of adulterated substitutes.

It took one of its final steps the first week of March when the writer, accompanied by J. B. Wilson, vice president of the Council and legislative chairman of the National Wool Growers Association, urged Prentiss Brown, administrator of the Office of Price Administration to organize retail merchants' advertising into a campaign to halt scare buying. At a conference with Mr. Brown, and later in a letter sent him by Mr. Wilson, it was emphasized that retail merchants today are endeavoring to make up in clothing sales the volume lost through inability to obtain supplies of "hard goods," i.e. vacuum cleaners, electric iceboxes, and other hardware household items. Appropriations for advertising and promotion have been increased by stores up to 30 per cent over normal. Inventories have more than tripled, in many instances, and garment manufacturers' re-orders are the greatest in the history of the country.

In his letter to Mr. Brown, Mr. Wilson said:

The National Wool Growers Association therefore, respectfully urges that you call an immediate conference of representatives of national and regional retail associations, and that a joint program be developed in conjunction with the Office of Price Administration and the advertising and publicity departments of stores. This joint effort should act with concerted direction and force to educate the public in restrained and sensible buying of clothing as does the existing national campaign to increase the sale of war bonds. After all, the objectives of both are the same: reduction of needless purchases which lead to inflation, and conservation of money, materials, and manpower, all of them essential to our war effort.

There is more wool in this country now than at any time in our history. Stocks of apparel in the hands of manufacturers and merchants have seldom if ever been equaled.

Garment manufacturers have orders which will require full-time operation for many months, and when these contracts are filled another apparel season will renew existing demands. If the present volume of consumer buying continues, clothing rationing is inevitable if only for reasons of national economy. This only means another unnecessary link in the chain of government regulations which are confusing, burdensome, and costly to taxpayers.

While no official action has been taken at the present writing by the O.P.A., we may state, with a moderate degree of satisfaction, that the concrete, practical suggestion contained in Mr. Wilson's letter is now being put into effect by retail merchants throughout the country.

SWIFT'S WOOL FUND PAYMENT

Swift and Company has contributed \$9,192.56 to the Wool Promotion Fund of the American Wool Council. The payment, which represents one sixth of a cent per head on all lambs slaughtered during the past year, was made through Paul C. Smith, vice president of Swift and Company.

This splendid support of the wool program is highly appreciated.

American Wool Council, Inc.

Wilson Letter Sent to Merchants

In order to get the proposal contained in Mr. Wilson's letter before merchants, copies were sent to the presidents of one thousand stores throughout the country. Copies were also mailed to trade associations and retail buying agencies and to textile and garment manufacturers. At the same time the letter was released to the press. Within three days advertisements by retail merchants in New York and adjacent territory warned people against hoarding of clothing and scare buying. The Council is hopeful that the O.P.A. will lend its strength to the proposal and that a permanent organization of textile manufacturers, retail merchants, and government representatives will be established which will undertake to calm the fears of the public and to regulate sales of clothing and other products to consumers.

The new administrator of the O.P.A., former Senator Prentiss Brown, is apparently undertaking a difficult and grim task with a calm, well-balanced mien, and a knowledge of both business and public psychology. It is bound to take a long time, however, to reorganize the spirit and the regulations of this bureau.

American Wool Council Predicted Scare Buying

For the past year, in press releases and in studies of wool supplies and civilian wool requirements, the Council has urged a change in the program of wool conservation and government emphasis on compulsory blending of wool products. Its first protest was against the statement by Leon Henderson, in March of 1942, that fabrics as good or better than those made of new wool could be made of blends of new wool, reused wool and rayon. In response to a protest sent by registered mail Mr. Henderson answered that the statement represented his opinion, and that he intended to stick to it.

It was during this period that the Office of Civilian Supply of the O.P.A. was active in endeavoring to force adulteration of all wool products on the wool industry. This campaign was accompanied by publicity on the part of the apparently endless parade of economists and analysts, drawn from colleges large and small, known and merely unheard of, warning the people that they faced grim shortages of food and clothing.

During this period supplies of wool in government and civilian hands continued to grow to quantities beyond that possessed by any nation in history. The Council in a number of analyses of these supplies urged increased allotments of wool for civilian use. Government agencies, in reply, asked if we wanted to win the war, and were wool growers patriotic? Further, all figures, except the ones they quoted, were declared to be wrong. Our figures, fortunately, were obtained from official sources and were at least as accurate as those of the wartime agencies.

Council Maintains News Service

During the past month the Council has issued half a dozen news releases which have been printed in thousands of newspapers advising the public that scare buying was not only against public interest, but definitely against individual interests. It has pointed out that demand was resulting in the use of woollens of inferior character. The bottom of the bin is being scraped, and defective materials, re-dyed fabrics, and goods of inferior strength, are all being made into garments, to be sold at the highest prices permitted.

The Council knows it was effective in preventing a policy of compulsory blending of wool products; it halted a proposed program of forbidding the use of wool in specific products as a program of wool conservation. (The War Production Board took wool out of men's, women's, and children's bathrobes, and then put it back a year later, after the entire industry had been disrupted.) But how effective it has been in stemming scare buying of clothing remains to be seen. If volume of publicity is any criterion, its efforts have not been in vain.

The Bureaus Now Preach "Plenty"

A brief note on what the O.P.A. and the W.P.B., the O.W.I. (Office of War Information) and other agencies are doing to halt the consumer scare buying which government publicity has been largely instrumental in bringing about, is pertinent at this point. The W.P.B. has doubled the amount of wool for civilian use—but it will not permit its use until the period beginning May 3. Frank L. Walton, director of the Textile, Clothing and Leather Branch of the War Production Board, who has long been an advocate of minimum production of domestic civilian woollens, and who regarded the volume of British wool imports as most desirable additions to our civilian stockpile, now urges a 48-hour week in three shifts to produce an additional billion yards of goods. This has fittingly been called increasing production "by exhortation." The clarion call for more production overlooks certain primary, practical factors of raw material supply, production schedules, available manpower, and other physical factors.

The War Production Board has announced there will be no clothes rationing—yet. The addition of this little word probably sent 10 per cent more women into the stores the next

day. The O.W.I. then stepped into the storm, and said scare buying was ridiculous, because there was not at the present time any thought of clothes rationing. From other agencies have come similar assurances—all of them, strange to say, tinged with enough doubt to keep alive rather than still the public's doubts.

Whoever brought scare buying about; whatever its motive force, it is a shameful spectacle of greed and selfishness over which we may well bow our heads.

Civilian Wool Allotment Increased

BY AMENDMENT of Wool Conservation Order M-73 on February 19, the amount of new wool allowed for manufacture of goods for civilian use on the worsted system was doubled for the period of May 3 to July 31, 1943 and the same increase permitted in the manufacture of goods on the woolen system for the period of February 1 to July 31. The premiums allowed for blending were also increased in the same proportion.

"To quiet 'scare' buying of civilian goods" was one of the principal reasons given for this relaxation in the civilian use of wool. The need for providing sufficient raw materials to keep machinery in operation during a slack period caused by smaller government contracts was cited and the statement also made that foreign wool imports are of sufficient quantity to permit the increased allotments. Official estimates of the size of the stockpile and the amount of commercial wools on hand in this country definitely indicate no shortage of wool.

M-73 provides now that the quota for civilian manufacture on the worsted system for the period February 1, to May 2, 1943, may be 15 per cent of a manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage (one-half the number of pounds of wool and mohair put in process during the first half of the year 1941) for the manufacture of fabrics or yarns containing all new wool. (The use of mohair is no longer restricted). An additional amount of 20 per cent of the same basic quarterly poundage for fabrics or yarns made of not more than 65 per cent new wool is also allowed. The allot-

ment, therefore, for this period on the worsted system remains the same as that set up by the amendment to the order on December 10, 1942.

But for the second period, May 3, to July 31, 1943, the allotment is doubled: 30 per cent of a manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage for fabrics containing all new wool, and an additional 40 per cent for fabrics and yarns manufactured of not more than 65 per cent new wool.

Quotas, however, on the woolen system were doubled for both the first and second periods.

The amended order states that any person having a basic quarterly poundage on the woolen, cotton, felt, or any other system, shall be entitled to put into process 5 per cent of his basic quarterly poundage for the manufacture of fabrics and yarns of all new wool, and an additional amount of 25 per cent of the same poundage if fabrics and yarns are manufactured of not more than 65 per cent wool. This applies as stated above, to both periods, which run from February 1 to July 31, 1943.

It has been indicated that this will put 75,000,000 more grease pounds of wool into process for civilian goods. Some people also assert that this increase will provide approximately the normal production of fabrics for civilians, because basic quarterly poundage figures are higher than normal or usual production figures.

Some other minor changes were made in the amended order. The restriction on alpaca was broadened to include additional grades for military fabrics only and the use of "fine" carpet wools permitted in the manufacture of floor covering, with the quota, 25 per cent of the basic quarterly poundage for each three-month period, unchanged.

NEW WOOL TRADE PRESIDENT

Harold T. Lindsay, Jr., of the firm of Harold T. Lindsay, was elected president of the National Wool Trade Association at its annual meeting on March 2. Vice presidents named are: Lawrence P. Hills of Hills, Oglesby and Devine; George L. Anderson of Adams and Leland; H. Clyde Moore of Colonial Wool Company; Marcus Harris, St. Louis; L. A. Schreiner, Kerrville, Texas; Hubert S. Silberman, Chicago; Lorin H. Tryon, San Francisco; Herbert K. Webb, Philadelphia. C. Willard Bigelow is treasurer of the association, and Robert W. Dana of Draper and Company, clerk.

Texas Jones Shearing

UNDER a plan formulated by growers, shearers, and government agencies, shearing zones have been designated in 11 West Texas counties. Each shearing crew will remain in one area or zone until all of the work is completed there, saving man hours, gasoline and tires.

Ranchers are to file the dates when they will need shearers with the United States Employment Service. Dates may have to be shifted to make use of crews when they are available and surplus crews in any areas will be sent to others where they are needed.

California Lamb Contracts

BENEFICIAL amounts of precipitation were received over most early lamb producing sections of California during the last week in February and favorable growing conditions seem assured through most of March. The outlook over the west side of the San Joaquin Valley, particularly was materially improved. Lamb contracting during the week was only fairly active at firm price rates.

Trade interests reported scattered contracts in the Sacramento Valley at a range of mostly \$13.75@14 per hundred straight across, and largely for May deliveries. Little activity was reported in Lower San Joaquin Valley districts where there had been some contracting during the previous week at prices ranging from \$14@14.25 straight across and \$14.75@15 per hundred for fat lamb sorts. Deliveries on latter purchases were said to range from late March through April. The feeder end of some of the latter bands was also reported taken at \$13.75@14 per hundred with deliveries extended into May.

Additional moisture in the Bakersfield area has further reduced the prospective supply of feeder lambs there. Several bands were reported contracted during the week at a range of \$13.75@14.15 per hundred straight across, for delivery mostly through May. Buyer sorted fat lambs are held up to \$15 per hundred and better for May delivery at Mojave Desert points.

Estimates by trade interests indicate that upwards of 500,000 of the California spring lamb crop are now under sale contract.

Food Distribution Administration

Red Cross War Fund



IN WARTIME the most important Red Cross obligation is to the armed forces. The organization's Blood Donor Service, its hospital recreation program, its service men's clubs overseas, its representatives at Army and Navy posts and with our task forces, and its home service work for dependents of our fighting men are but a few ways of fulfilling this obligation.

At the same time, needs at home are almost equally urgent. Civilians must be trained for any contingency. The Red Cross must be ready with men and materiel to meet any emergency. Only adequate preparedness will enable the Red Cross to help safeguard national health and security.

The humanitarianism of the Red Cross caused President Roosevelt to designate March, 1943, as Red Cross month. During that period the Red Cross War Fund will be raised to enable the organization to continue its services on a scale commensurate with needs. The annual Roll Call was postponed last November to coincide with this campaign, and as a result the organization will make but one appeal during 1943 unless dire civilian emergency, such as great flood or other catastrophe, should descend upon our nation.

The Red Cross represents the col-

lective will of the American people. It is a responsible and experienced organization. Thus each of us may safely delegate to it those things which, if granted the opportunity, we would like to do ourselves. Support of the War Fund enables the Red Cross to continue as our representative with our troops at home and abroad and on the civilian front.

So that the Red Cross may fulfill our wishes adequately, all of us should support the War Fund to our utmost ability.

Reloading To Ease Ammunition Shortage

LESLIE R. ALBEE of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, stationed at Faith, South Dakota, has suggested that reloading shells may help solve the ammunition problem of sheepmen. His letter, dated February 6, conveying this suggestion follows:

The effort of the National Wool Growers Association to obtain ammunition with which sheepmen can hunt coyotes and other predators has interested me a great deal. There appears to be an almost universal need for standard caliber of rifle ammunition. It may be that this need can be met wholly or in part by ammunition rationed or otherwise made available from ammunition factories. I have, however, a suggestion to make for what it may be worth.

There are thousands of men like myself who are members of the National Rifle Association and who are reloading addicts. Ammunition components are still available, or could be made available from ammunition companies more readily than complete cartridges. Components include bullets, powder, primers, and cartridge cases.

Reloading is my hobby just as it is with thousands of other men scattered everywhere over the United States. I have a Pacific bench-type reloading outfit for the .30-'06 caliber. Extra dies can be furnished by the Pacific Gun Sight Company of San Francisco adapting my equipment for such standard calibers as .25-35, .30-30, .250-3000, etc.

The National Rifle Association has asked its members who wish to reload for defense factory guards to file their desire with the association. Components would be made available by the defense factory, and a nominal charge for the reloader's time would be made.

Why couldn't this arrangement be worked out in certain localities for furnishing needed ammunition to sheepmen?

If the extra dies at about \$12.00 to \$15.00 per caliber plus bullets, powder, primers, and cases were made available to me, I would gladly put in my spare time reloading for sheepmen. Factory ammunition can readily be duplicated.

THE AUXILIARY

National Auxiliary Finances From March, 1941, to February, 1943

Balance received, March, 1941.....	\$ 562.88
Refunds from Texas, Idaho and president	190.52
Dues received during 1942.....	238.50
Money made at 1942 convention.....	317.79

Total deposits to January 26, 1942	\$1,309.69
Dues received during 1943 Conven- tion	\$ 203.00
Texas	\$58.00
Oregon	38.50
Utah	31.50
Washington	25.00
Idaho	25.00
Colorado	25.00

Total deposits for two years..\$1,512.69

Total Expense for 1941 and to Feb- ruary 18, 1942:	
Flowers for funeral.....	\$ 5.30
Stationery for year.....	25.40
Files, book and punch.....	7.50
Stamps, president and heads of committee	31.07
Incidentals, carbons, ribbons, sec- ond sheets, telegrams.....	5.65
Typing expense, history copies, minutes, reports	14.33
Traveling expense of president.....	380.00
(\$190.02 of this was refunded by Texas, Idaho and president.)	
Convention expense for 1942 meeting	148.05
(Railway fare, rooms for secretary, president, flowers, luncheon for delegates, typing expense.)	
Share of chests of silver for club prizes	33.07

Total of Expense up to Feb-
ruary 18, 1942.....\$ 650.37

Total Expense from February 18, 1942, to February 1, 1943:	
Stamps, president, Mrs. Smith \$5.00	13.40
Prizes of blankets \$54.90 plus \$6 postage, insurance, cards.....	60.90
Typing expense, copies of revised and old const., by-laws, minutes, reports	9.00
Stationery	9.00
Telegrams sent to all state meet- ings, to Montana.....	8.50
Mimeographing expense for Mrs. Smith	5.81
Cost of history book \$6.50, plus \$5.00 expense.....	11.50
1943 convention expense, railway fare for 2, \$98.46, hotel room, \$21.45, Executive dinner, \$24.55, share of tea, \$22.08, war stamps for prizes in scrap book contest, \$8.00	174.54
War Bond	296.00

Total of expense since Febru-
ary 18, 1942, to February
1, 1943

Total of expense March, 1941,
to February 18, 1942.....\$ 650.37

Total of expenses for 1941,
1942 to February 1, 1943.....\$1,339.02

Cash on hand as of Febru-
ary 1, 1943..... 273.67

Total of bank deposits to February 1, 1943.....	\$1,512.69
Assets on hand, bank balance of.....	\$273.67
War Bond	296.00
Total	\$569.67

Greetings from President Roberts

TO THE AUXILIARY MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS I wish to extend
my greetings and good wishes. I take
this opportunity to thank you for the



Mrs. W. A. Roberts

Mrs. W. A. Roberts, new president of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association, has an unusually excellent background in auxiliary work. In fact, she was the first president of the first auxiliary, organized in Yakima, Washington, in February, 1923, and since then has served as treasurer, vice president and president of the Washington State Auxiliary; as treasurer of the Yakima unit; as treasurer and first vice president of the National Auxiliary, as well as chairwoman of various committees.

A partner in the firm of Roberts Brothers, who operate range sheep in the State of Washington, she is also well informed on the practical side of sheep husbandry and its needs.

In addition to her auxiliary activities, Mrs. Roberts is a member of the Y.W.C.A. Board and chairwoman of its finance committee; a member of the Altrusa Club for executive women, and of the Unity Metaphysical Center.

honor which you have bestowed upon me. I shall endeavor to be worthy of the confidence placed in me.

I have been reading the reports sent in by the state auxiliaries and they are certainly very encouraging. There is not an auxiliary that has not been doing its full share of war work and doing it in a very fine way. I am indeed proud of the records sent by you. We know that the American people have one major task and that is the task of helping in winning this war. However, we must not lose sight of the fact that the simple every-day tasks must be performed too, and we must endeavor to keep all things in their right relationship. Perhaps there will never be a time when it is so important for us all to cooperate in building and holding together as a group a strong and united auxiliary that we may have a strong organization ready to tackle and solve the many problems which will face us when this war is ended and we shall be trying to adjust our lives and our businesses to a peacetime program. With all the added tasks it will be necessary for us to sacrifice some of the social activities to which we have been accustomed and to efficiently plan our time and abilities; so, let us put our hands to the wheel and work diligently for a successful year for our Auxiliary.

According to our records, we now have 850 members. Let us make our membership at least 1000. A chain with 1000 links has a lot of potential power, and yet no chain is stronger than its weakest link so won't you help make the links strong that our chain will be able to promote the program for which we were organized? This means that each and every member must plan to take an active interest in our program and projects. Won't you please feel free to write and offer any suggestions for our program that you think will be of help?

I hope to have the committee appointments ready for the next issue of the National Wool Grower. I am counting on the help and cooperation of every auxiliary member through these next two years.

Sincerely yours,
Retta Roberts

The President's Report for 1942

By Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson

THIS report is short as you know that few things could be planned or accomplished this year. In 1943 perhaps we can do more for our armed forces in their camps and hospitals. We can allow wool and lamb promotion work to lapse for a time, as with meat rationing and wool restrictions it is almost impossible to advertise our products. However, I hope all chapters and state auxiliaries will continue their organizations and not withdraw for the duration.

If you remember, at the close of the national meeting last year, I sent a letter to each state president. In this letter I mentioned some things that should be attended to during the year. I wrote Mrs. Roosevelt regarding collection of wool fleeces to make blankets for the American Red Cross. I had a reply from her secretary Malvina Thompson, saying my letter had been sent to Mr. K. W. Marriner of the War Production Board. Then I had a nice letter from Mr. Marriner saying it was a fine idea, but with the wool shortage and restrictions on the manufacturing of wool, he thought it would be unwise to try such a plan at that time.

In this letter sent to each state, I mentioned the fact that we should consider the changes in the National Constitution and By-Laws as revised by Mrs. Marsh Lea, of Texas, and Mrs. Mac Hoke, of Oregon. Changes in the constitution and by-laws were accepted at the 1943 meeting, and copies will be sent to each state president.

At the 1942 national meeting it was voted to continue our special awards to girls who entered wool dresses and suits at the style show at the National Club Congress in Chicago. We bought wool blankets at once so we would be sure and have them. Six girls received these prizes among the nine girls in the Blue Ribbon Group. These girls were from Ohio, Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma and Oregon. Our Secretary mailed the blankets to each girl and has received notes expressing their thanks and gratitude for this special award. Next year if we continue the award, I suggest the blankets

be sent to Chicago and be given at the time of the congress.

At the order of the different state presidents, the National Auxiliary bought a \$400 War Bond for less than \$300. As this was about 50 per cent of our bank balance, I believe it speaks well for the patriotism of your national organization. Other expenses are not large this year as no trips have been taken since the meeting in Salt Lake City. A financial statement will be



The arrows in the above picture point to the six young ladies who won the special wool blanket awards of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association in the Girls' Dress Revue in the National 4-H Congress in Chicago last December, mentioned in President Thompson's report. The girls, each wearing a wool garment designed and made by herself, are, beginning at the left: Dorothy Ulmer, Bucyrus, Ohio; Shirley Nelson, Blue Earth, Minnesota; Jean Hufsmith, Portland, Oregon; Luree Fuhlbrodt, Blair, Nebraska; Lavonne Brown, Independence, Missouri; and Dortha Nash, Foster, Oklahoma. The other girls, Mary Jane Bell of Daisy, Tennessee; Sara Elizabeth Whitfield of Jefferson, Georgia; and Mary Brown of Hutchinson, Kansas, also won blue ribbons. Miss Whitfield's costume being of velveteen and those of the other two of linen.

sent to each state after the 1943 business meeting, also the books will be audited (See page 25.)

Letters have been written to all state presidents during the year and telegrams have been sent to each state meeting. Letters and telegrams were sent to Butte, Montana, when I was told the women of that state wanted to organize an auxiliary. Nothing more was heard of the question and the letters and telegrams remain unanswered.

I hope your members saw the May copy of the Ladies' Home Journal in which Miss Ann Batchelder had her usual two-page table in color. This time she featured lamb chops and I feel I may have had something to do with that selection. A year before I had written her, to ask her to feature lamb or mutton some time. In checking back for a year I found almost every kind of meat had been used except lamb. I also told her how widespread the sheep industry was and how many of her readers must be interested in the raising of sheep. I asked many people to write and express their appreciation. From her replies I know she was pleased at the attention this

picture received.

The only state meetings I attended this year were the two in Oregon: the usual meeting held at the time of the August Ram Sale and the state convention in Baker just previous to this meeting. At both of these meetings I was pleasantly entertained and heard inspiring reports from local chapters.

From this state convention I heard a very good idea advanced by Mrs. Mac Hoke, president of the Umatilla

County Chapter. She had started a war stamp book and during the year the members will be asked to add stamps as they see fit. Before the end of the year they expect to have enough to buy a bond. Another chapter in Oregon sells chances on some article of food at each regular meeting. The one winning the prize must bring the next prize; in a year they make as much money as they would at a card party with much less effort for the members.

Let us consider our wartime obligations. As I said at the beginning of this report, with meat rationing and wool restrictions to heed, there is little work we can do on those subjects. Instead we could support local efforts to aid our armed forces. Surely this is not too much to do for our own boys. Chapters with funds should inquire about help needed in furnishing day rooms with comfortable furnishings such as chairs, couches, radios, mirrors, and magazine subscriptions. Also offer help to the small U.S.O. rooms at railway stations, which do so much good and always need help. The recreation rooms and wards in hospitals need your help in securing radios, records, magazines and games. State auxiliaries with good bank accounts should look into these matters and give in the localities where their membership is located. Many of our state auxiliaries have bought bonds to the limit and all of them should do so with the thought in mind that such an investment is a way of saving. If it is necessary to use such money before the bonds mature they can always be sold for face value.

It is with great pleasure that I note Utah has an increase of 26 in membership, that Texas has held their membership up to the high standard set in 1941. They top all the states with a membership of 232. Colorado, Idaho and Washington remain the same but I regret that Oregon shows a loss of 61 members. Perhaps some of those members will pay their dues later on; we hope so. Wyoming seems to have lost interest but perhaps their dues and report will come in later as I understand their president, Mrs. P. J. Quealy, is ill.

At this time I wish to thank our secretary, Mrs. Harold Cohn, for her unfailing loyalty and generous help, to thank Mrs. Emory Smith, first vice president, press correspondent and head of the promotion committee

for all her faithful work the past two years. She has carried a load and has done a fine piece of work for all our members. I wish to thank our second vice president, Mrs. Willie B. Whitehead of Del Rio, Texas, for her generosity in donating the mohair rug which brought us \$175 at the 1942 convention. My thanks go also to the historian, Mrs. J. R. Eliason, for the very complete history presented at the 1943 meeting; to members of the several committees who have given so much of their time the past two

years; and to Mrs. Robert Naylor of Idaho, past national president, for her advice and help so generously given, at my request the last two years.

When I look back to the assistance and kindness I have received from the various state officers, I feel it is impossible to give adequate thanks for their valuable cooperation. But I do feel if any progress has been made in the last two years, it is due to them and their ideas, to their cooperation with the ideas I have advanced from time to time.

State Auxiliary Conventions

Utah

IN ORDER that more of the women I would be able to attend the instructive meetings of the men's organization, only one business meeting was held during the 13th annual convention of the Utah Auxiliary. This meeting was held in the Jade Room of the Hotel Utah, in Salt Lake City, 2 P. M., the 26th of January, just following the close of the national convention.

Mrs. E. Jay Kearns, state auxiliary president, presided and pushed the meeting along in true wartime style to include reports of officers and local chapter delegates, a speaker, election of officers, and, for entertainment, some music.

Mrs. Kearns greeted the out-of-town ladies and, in her report, gave a glowing account of war work accomplished by the Utah Auxiliary this past year. This work included the making of paper bags for hospitals, wrapping bandages, knitting sweaters, afghans, and other articles; donating cookies and time to the USO, aiding in War Bond drives and in various other ways. Mrs. Dan Capener, vice president and chairman of the promotion committee, gave her report which followed very closely that of Mrs. Kearns, and each chapter gave a brief report covering its activities.

The speaker for the session was S. Grover Rich, state rationing officer for Office of Price Administration. He asked particularly that women use smaller quantities of scarce commodities and serve more cereals and other abundant foods. He stressed the point that we comply with all requests of the War Rationing Board with good

nature, saying this would greatly aid the war effort.

The new officers elected at the meeting are: Mrs. Don Clyde of Heber City, president; Mrs. J. R. Eliason, Salt Lake City, first vice president; Mrs. B. H. Stringham, Vernal, reelected second vice president; Mrs. J. T. Murdock of Heber, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Vern Chipman, American Fork, reelected historian.

Wednesday the ladies joined the men in their annual dinner and dance in the Lafayette Ballroom.

Thursday no meetings of the auxiliary were held in order that the ladies would be free to attend the meetings of the men's organization.

Idaho

TWIN FALLS was the hostess city this year to the convention of the Idaho Wool Growers Association and the Auxiliary, held January 11 and 12, 1943.

Due to the fact that the convention was turned to a streamlined business meeting, this year's activities were limited to a part of one day. The Women's Auxiliary met jointly with the men's association in the first session at 1:00 P. M. January 11.

The spacious home of Mrs. Clyde Bacon was the scene of a delightful tea arranged by Mrs. Bacon and Twin Falls women wool growers. From three until five o'clock, about seventy-five women members and guests were greeted by Mrs. Bacon and Mrs. C. W. Coiner, state vice president. The serving table, covered with a lovely lace cloth, laid with silver and china, was beautiful with a vase of pink and

white carnations on a reflector and pink tapers on either side. Mrs. Harry Soulen and Mrs. A. Katseanes, state president, poured.

Following the tea, the annual business meeting was held at the home of Vice President Mrs. C. W. Coiner. Mrs. Katseanes, president, presided at the meeting. Mrs. Jack Parker read the report from the Blackfoot chapter. In the absence of other delegates, reports were read by the Secretary from the Idaho Falls, Malad, and U. L. I. A. chapters. The reports showed much knitting and sewing had been done for the Red Cross, war bonds had been purchased, donations made to the Red Cross, and waste kitchen fats saved.

With money received from the sale of the ram at Pocatello, the Idaho Auxiliary purchased a \$370 War Bond to retire at \$500. Also \$25 was donated to the Red Cross and \$25 to the USO.

Oregon

THE Oregon Wool Growers' convention was held in Baker on January 21 and 22 and the auxiliary meetings were held in conjunction with the men's. It was decided to streamline all proceedings as much as possible and only one business meeting of the auxiliary was held. Members attended the men's meetings and listened to the speakers and discussions.

One tea and one luncheon were held, both being well attended. At the tea, which was given in the Hotel Baker on the afternoon of January 21, Mrs. Myrtle Lee gave a most interesting talk and demonstration of spinning and weaving.

The banquet, held in the Hotel Baker and attended by 250 wool growers and visitors, was given by the Baker County Chamber of Commerce. Lamb for the dinner was furnished by the Baker County Wool Growers. Causing a great deal of excitement during the evening was the auctioning of a cake and two blankets for the benefit of the Oregon Auxiliary. The cake, which had been made by Mrs. Art Boyd, state president, was in the shape of a lamb and had been used as the centerpiece for the tea table in the afternoon. To the amazement of auxiliary members, including Mrs. Boyd, bids mounted rapidly and the cake was finally sold to Bill Allen of

Harney County, for \$150. Mr. Allen returned it to the Auxiliary for a second sale which brought \$107 from Mike O'Toole. The blankets, donated by the Cunningham Sheep Company and M. D. Fell of Pendleton, were sold to Frank Wilkinson of Heppner and to Mr. Pat Cecil of Burns for \$135 and \$100 respectively. The evening netted the auxiliary nearly \$500.

Brief talks were made at the banquet by Mac Hoke, president of the Oregon Wool Growers Association; Dr. Strand, president of the Oregon State College; F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association; John Caine of the Chicago Stock Yards, and others.

At the business meeting on Friday morning, the auxiliary listened to reports of chapters and committees. Grant County was awarded first place on its scrapbook and Baker County on its wool exhibit. The auxiliary decided to continue its 4-H Club work, offering prizes at fat lamb shows, the state fair, and the Pacific International. It also decided to keep a substantial cash reserve to be used later in lamb and wool promotion.

Reports from the chapters indicated the auxiliary activities in Oregon during the fall and early winter centered largely around war work. Two chapters, Morrow County and Malheur County, have been instrumental in the furnishing of recreational halls for the soldiers in nearby camps. Furniture was reconditioned, curtains made, reading material furnished, and Christmas cheer supplied. In this way an important service was rendered. The Oregon Auxiliary feels particularly proud of the work done by these chapters.

Nearly all the groups have been actively engaged in Red Cross or other war work. Baker Chapter has completed one project which may be of interest to other chapters. This is the making of afghans from blocks of used woolen materials. Yarn is crocheted around the blocks and they are sewed together. The results are attractive as well as warm afghans at a very low cost. This chapter also contributed \$10 toward a fund which has been started toward a war memorial to be built after the war.

Several of the chapters have purchased war bonds and have made donations to civic and war causes. Grant County has continued the sale of cook books to purchase its bonds. Members

of several chapters have done much knitting and sewing for the Red Cross.

Umatilla County had a very interesting and instructive talk in December, given by Mrs. Myrtle Carter, home demonstration agent, on synthetics and woolens. This chapter, as well as others, feels it is extremely important for members to keep informed as to the progress of synthetic materials during this period when the use of wool is so curtailed.

All officers were reelected: Mrs. Art Boyd, president; Mrs. Fred Trenkel, vice president; Mrs. Louis Osborn, secretary-treasurer. They were praised for their faithful and efficient service in the past two years.

Following the business meeting a luncheon was served in the Baker Hotel with members as guests of the state auxiliary.

Gertrude Fortner,
Corresponding Secretary.

Sharing the Meat

THE job of putting over the "share-the-meat" program, which is shortly to be turned into out-and-out rationing, has largely fallen on the shoulders of the retail butchers, for they deal directly with the housewives. Many of them have done excellent service in publicizing the reasons why normal supplies of meat are not available and suggesting ways for tending meat.

The Wool Grower's attention has been called particularly to the fine efforts of the Safeway Stores in the meat program. In their very attractive house organ, *Uno Animo* (Of One Mind), numerous articles have been printed in recent months designed to help Safeway personnel make the voluntary rationing program for meat effective. Not only containing facts on meat supplies and demand, the articles also include suggestions on meat use that will make it go farther. Likewise Safeway Stores have kept the idea of sharing the meat prominently before their customers: by the display of streamers asking for cooperation to make the supply of meat go around, and in with all their meat advertising, the same thought has also been tied: "Our government has requested that we use no more than two and one half pounds of meat per person weekly. Let's all cooperate. Buy no more than your family's share—for victory."

LAMB MARKETS

Omaha

DESPITE the fact that supplies were larger than for any other February in 11 years, the fat lamb market had a healthy tone all during the month and closed at levels as much as 25 cents above late January. Woolled lambs from Kansas wheatfields and the feeding districts of western Nebraska and Colorado made up the bulk of the supply.

A feature of the month's trade was the increased attention buyers were paying to quality. Strictly choice lambs commanded more of a premium than at any other time recently, and the price spread between them and medium to pretty good grades was wider. Closing top, at \$16.10, was a nickel under the month's peak, but the general run of prices was the highest since 1929.

It was still early for many shorn lambs to arrive. The few loads that did show up sold at \$14.75@15.25.

Dominant factor in the trade, as in other branches of the market, was the unprecedented demand from all quarters, including the Army and civilian trade. This and the favorable situation of the wool market made it quite evident that offerings will meet with a broad outlet for some time to come.

More feeder lambs went back to the country, too, than during the same month of 1942, but in spite of that many orders had to go unfilled. Better grades of feeder lambs sold at \$15 to \$15.40, the latter price a new high for the past 14 years. Spread of prices between fat and feeder lambs narrowed to the point where lambs that did not carry finish often found a better outlet to the feeder buyers than to packers.

Fat ewe supplies also dropped off, and the market advanced seasonally, reaching levels 25@35 cents above the previous month's close. Peak money for the period was \$9, and closing top was \$8.85. Business in bred ewes was almost too limited to be worthy of mention. A few lots of solid-mouthed ewes went at \$9.25 to \$9.50. Fed yearling wethers sold up to \$14.15, several loads moving at that price.

Clyde McCreary

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

Total U. S. Inspected Slaughter January.....	1943 1,724,456	1942 1,610,991
Week Ended:	Feb. 27	Feb. 28
Slaughter at 27 Centers.....	286,387	281,645
Chicago Average Live Lamb Prices		
Good and Choice.....	15.98	12.08
Medium and Good.....	14.42	10.98
New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices		
Choice, 30-40 pounds.....	28.12	21.44
Good, 30-40 pounds.....	26.62	20.50
Commercial, all-weights.....	24.62	17.19

Denver

SHEEP receipts at Denver for February totaled 107,908 compared to 116,145 in February, 1942, a decrease of 8,237. Fed lambs from Colorado made up the bulk of the salable supply; some were also received from Nebraska, Wyoming, Kansas, New Mexico, Texas, Montana, Utah and Idaho.

Top for the first week on fed lambs was \$16, freight paid, with some loads at \$15.75 to \$15.85, freight paid, and others at \$15.65 to \$15.85 flat. Some medium to good kinds brought \$14.75 to \$15. Trucked lots brought \$15.65. Carlots of good and choice ewes sold at \$7.75 to \$8.25 and a few loads sold at \$6.75 to \$7.50. Native ewes sold at \$6.50 to \$8.25. A few loads of fleshy feeders sold at \$14.75 to \$14.85, and straight feeders brought \$14 to \$14.50.

During the second week of February fat lambs closed steady to 15 cents higher than the first week and \$16, freight paid, was again the top. Most good to choice loads ranged from \$15.50 to \$15.90 flat. Medium to good kinds sold at \$15.25 to \$15.40 flat. Choice woolled truck-ins topped at \$15.50, with the bulk selling at \$15.25 to \$15.40. Ewes advanced 25 to 35 cents during the week, with load lots selling up to \$8.60 and others from \$6.25 to \$8.10. A few loads of good to choice feeding lambs sold at \$14.35 to \$14.50.

During the third week fat lambs were strong to 25 cents higher. Top

for the week was \$16 flat, with the bulk of the good and choice kinds selling at \$15.65 to \$16 flat. Trucked lots bulked at \$14.75 to \$15.50, a few choice lots going at \$15.60 to \$15.75. Feeding lambs were about steady, with the bulk of the good and choice at \$13.75 to \$14.60 and some light feeders at \$11.50 to \$12.50. Loads of good and choice fed ewes sold at \$8 to \$8.50 and there were a few cars at \$7.50 to \$7.75.

During the last week of February fed lambs again reached \$16 flat. Others sold at \$15.50 to \$15.90, a few down to \$15. Good to choice ewes brought \$8 to \$8.40, with a few truck-ins at \$8.50. Good and choice load lots of feeders sold at \$14.60 to \$14.85 and trucked-in feeders ranged from \$13 to \$14.60.

Ed Marsh

Chicago

MAINLY because of ceiling prices on ovine products the market for sheep and lambs on the hoof during the month of February showed the least fluctuation in years. A smaller supply met with a uniformly good demand all month and sustained prices at the highest level for February since 1929 when the top reached \$17.75.

The summit reached this month was \$16.60 paid for an extra choice load of Colorado lambs on the 19th. A top of \$16.50 was made frequently during the month with the bulk of the good lambs selling at \$16 to \$16.40. As usual eastern shippers put strong

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emphasis on quality and skimmed off the cream of the trade most of the month. The supply showed considerable variation in quality at times, which made considerable difference in the daily average price of lambs though the average for the month was comparatively high, the best in 14 years and close to the \$16.25 average made in 1929.

The movement out of Colorado was smaller than last year because fewer lambs were fed in that area. From the midwest farm section the supply was about the same as last year and quality was generally good. Buyers were inclined to make sharp discrimination against short-fed lambs, and a small deterioration in finish lowered the price several notches. Eastern shippers were insistent on good quality, and when this competition was lacking the local buyers were able to depress the market. A good many medium to good lambs sold at \$15.50 to \$16 during the month, and some of plainer quality went at \$14 to \$15, but sales under \$14 had to be in the cull class.

A fairly large proportion of the month's supply consisted of shorn lambs. Some lost their fleece during the summer, but many in the fall so that their pelts ran in the No. 1 and No. 2 classes. The call for these pelts for the Army made the demand strong for that class of lambs and they sold largely at \$15.25 to \$15.75, depending on the length of wool.

The comparatively high price of lambs during the month was a strong inducement to feed to a good finish and consequently few lambs of the feeder type showed up during the period. Quite a strong demand existed for lambs to take out and shear, and most of the outgoing shipments, aside from those that went east for slaughter, were lambs of this class. Total shipments for the month were about 20 per cent under those of a year ago and considerably under the ten-year average. However, during the first three weeks of February, shipments of feeder lambs through market centers were 30 per cent larger than a year ago. According to government statistics the number of lambs on feed the first of the year was smaller by about 2 per cent than in the previous year, but about a million head above that of ten years ago when the best lambs were selling at \$6.25.

Local traders look for a good mar-

ket during the spring and summer months, for the visible supply of lambs is not large and demand is best in years. The expanding purchase of mutton products for the Army and on lend-lease account promises a good support to the trade. The comparatively high price of pork and beef relied on to hold dressed lamb at a lofty figure.

During the month of February receipts were 151,212, which included 41,012 sent direct to packers. The month's supply was about 1,000 less than a year ago and the smallest for February in over 40 years. Fat lambs came largely from the farms of the Middle West and from the Colorado territory, and averaged good in quality. Although many sold at \$16 to \$16.50, about half the supply sold at \$15 to \$15.75 and carried a strong percentage of clipped lambs carrying No. 1 and No. 2 pelts.

Yearlings were about in the usual small proportion to the total supply and showed no quotable change during the month. Prices ranged from \$12.25 to \$14.65 with the bulk selling at \$13 to \$14.

There was a strong demand for ewes with much emphasis on the quality. Top was made at \$9.50 several times during the month and the bulk sold at \$8 to \$9. There was an unreliable call for cull and common ewes at \$7 or under. Odd lots of wethers sold at \$10 to \$12, with some two-year olds at \$11 to \$13.

A limited number of shearing lambs sold at \$15 to \$15.25, one shipment averaging 75 pounds at \$14.50.

The slaughter of ovine stock at 27 market points during the month averaged 286,000 per week, which was about 9,000 more per week than for the corresponding period last year.

Frank E. Moore

St. Joseph

SHEEP receipts for February were comparatively light, the total being 86,482 against 104,835 in January and 84,326 in February a year ago. The largest contributor for the month was Kansas, with about 30,000 from southwestern wheatfields. Nebraska sent in 5,820, Colorado 2,719, and Texas and New Mexico 11,962.

The lamb market held to nearly a steady level throughout the month, closing prices being strong to 25 cents higher. On the extreme close, best

western fed lambs sold at \$16.10, with others \$15.60@16, and top natives at \$15.75. Several loads of feeder and shearing lambs sold \$14.75@15.25 during the month.

Yearlings were scarce and sales ranged largely \$14@14.50, or about steady for the period. Fat ewes closed the month strong to 25 cents higher, with best Kansas and Nebraska offerings at \$9 and other load lots \$8.25@8.90. Odd lots of natives also ranged up to \$9 during the month.

H. H. Madden

Ogden

RECEIPTS of sheep and lambs at Ogden for February totaled 44,477 head, only 117 head below the same month a year ago. This total was comprised of 40,406 head by rail and 4,071 trucked in. The rail shipments were almost entirely on through billing to various West Coast packers.

Fat lambs yarded from southern Utah totaled 19,000 as compared to only 15,000 in the same month last year. These were mostly headed towards the Bay area for slaughter. One load on February 23 from Delta, Utah, averaging 96 pounds and grading medium to good, sold at \$15.10 straight across.

Shipments received from the North, including northern Utah and Idaho, amounted to 21,000 head, which was 5,000 under the yardings from that area in February last year. These were practically 100 per cent fat lambs destined to both the Bay and Los Angeles packing centers.

Early in the month (the 5th) a carload of good to choice 91-pound Evanston, Wyoming, fat lambs was taken at \$15.10 sorted. The remainder of the February sales were confined to small trucked-in lots of fat lambs that sold almost daily at prices ranging from \$14 to \$14.50. One lot of 72-pound trucked-in feeder lambs brought \$13.25 early in February, and a half deck of 140-pound fat woolled ewes scored \$7.35 on the 16th.

Sales of 7,300 head during February were 400 above those changing hands during same month last year.

The feed lots of Utah and Idaho will be largely cleaned up in the next two to three weeks, and many of the West Coast packer lamb buyers have now left for the California spring lamb areas.

R. C. Albright

Chicago Fat Stock Show

AS a further incentive to increase the production of livestock for war purposes, as urged by Secretary Wickard, the Union Stock Yard and Transit Company, operators of the Chicago market, will sponsor a fat stock show in 1943 which will also include classes for 4-H and F. F. A. members. The show will be held during the first week of December in place of the International Live Stock Exposition, which has taken place annually from 1900 through 1941 and was canceled last year for the duration of the war.

In 1942, a substitute showing of fat stock only, called the Chicago Market Fat Stock and Carlot Competition, was staged at the Chicago Stock yards December 2 to 5, with an entry of 6,349 head of steers, lambs and hogs, giving it first rank among all live stock shows in the country last year.

It is planned to offer the same prizes for the 1943 show that were provided last year by the Stock Yard Company and various livestock breed associations.

The classes will include competition for individual steers, lambs, and hogs, as well as carload lot classes of fat and feeder cattle, sheep and swine. Since all of these animals will be sold and slaughtered at the conclusion of the show, officials of the competition point out that this event will not create an added burden to transportation, as all of these animals will have been destined for market anyway.

Plans have also been made to hold a Junior Market Lamb Show at the Chicago Stock Yards in June and a Junior Market Hog Show in September, at which lambs and barrows raised by 4-H and F. F. A. boys and girls will be exhibited. The dates of these events will soon be announced.

According to officials of the Chicago Market Fat Stock and Carlot Competition, this show will also include classes for baby beeves, lambs, and hogs shown by farm boys and girls under 21 years old.

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MOISTURE RECORD *for the Winter Months*

MOST of the far western states had slightly deficient precipitation during the past winter quarter, though only a rather small part, chiefly in Colorado, portions of adjoining Plains states, and southern Arizona, had less than half the normal rains and snows during the three months.

Eastern Montana had appreciably more than normal snows, while most of New Mexico, Oregon, and the northern parts of Nevada and California had slightly above normal amounts of rain and snow. December was subnormally

dry in parts of Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana, while January had light moisture supplies in Washington, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and western Texas, and February snows were also rather deficient in Utah, Idaho, Nevada, the Texas Southwest, Colorado and Wyoming. On the whole, however, the moisture supplies have been adequate, allowing pretty full utilization of the range, and being rather favorable for livestock in the open areas.

Precipitation on Western Live Stock Ranges, with Departures from Normal, During December, 1942, and January and February, 1943, Inclusive. (In Inches)

	Normal 8-Months' Precipitation	Actual 8-Months' Precipitation	Excess (+), or Deficiency (-) 8 Months	Excess (+), or Deficiency (-) 12 Months
--	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--	---

Washington—

Seattle	14.43	10.36	-4.07	-2.31
Spokane	6.12	4.10	-2.02	-2.15
Walla Walla	5.78	5.27	-0.51	+0.67

Oregon—

Portland	18.68	21.43	+2.75	+9.76
Baker	4.32	3.99	-0.33	-0.59
Roseburg	15.14	20.66	+5.52	+8.74

California—

Redding	19.08	21.06	+1.98	—
San Francisco	12.34	10.97	-1.37	+0.29
Fresno	4.61	3.77	-0.84	-1.71
Los Angeles	8.80	12.06	+3.26	+2.39

Nevada—

Winnemucca	3.02	4.28	+1.26	—
Reno	3.70	5.17	+1.47	+1.26

Arizona—

Phoenix	2.57	1.16	-1.41	-2.68
Flagstaff	7.18	5.88	-1.30	—
Yuma	1.39	0.34	-1.05	-1.91

New Mexico—

Albuquerque	1.18	1.61	+0.43	+0.62
Roswell	1.76	1.83	+0.07	-0.42

Texas—

Amarillo	2.02	1.27	-0.75	+3.70
Abilene	3.31	2.89	-0.42	+1.04
Del Rio	1.79	1.02	-0.77	+1.10
El Paso	1.39	1.51	+0.12	+0.13

Montana—

Billings	1.53	2.84	+1.11	+2.10
Helena	2.30	1.76	-0.54	-0.13
Kalispell	4.13	5.67	+1.54	+3.19
Havre	1.84	1.67	-0.17	+0.30
Williston, N. D.	1.53	2.46	+0.93	+0.46

Idaho—

Boise	4.74	4.90	+0.16	+0.00
Pocatello	3.87	2.94	-0.93	-0.09

Utah—

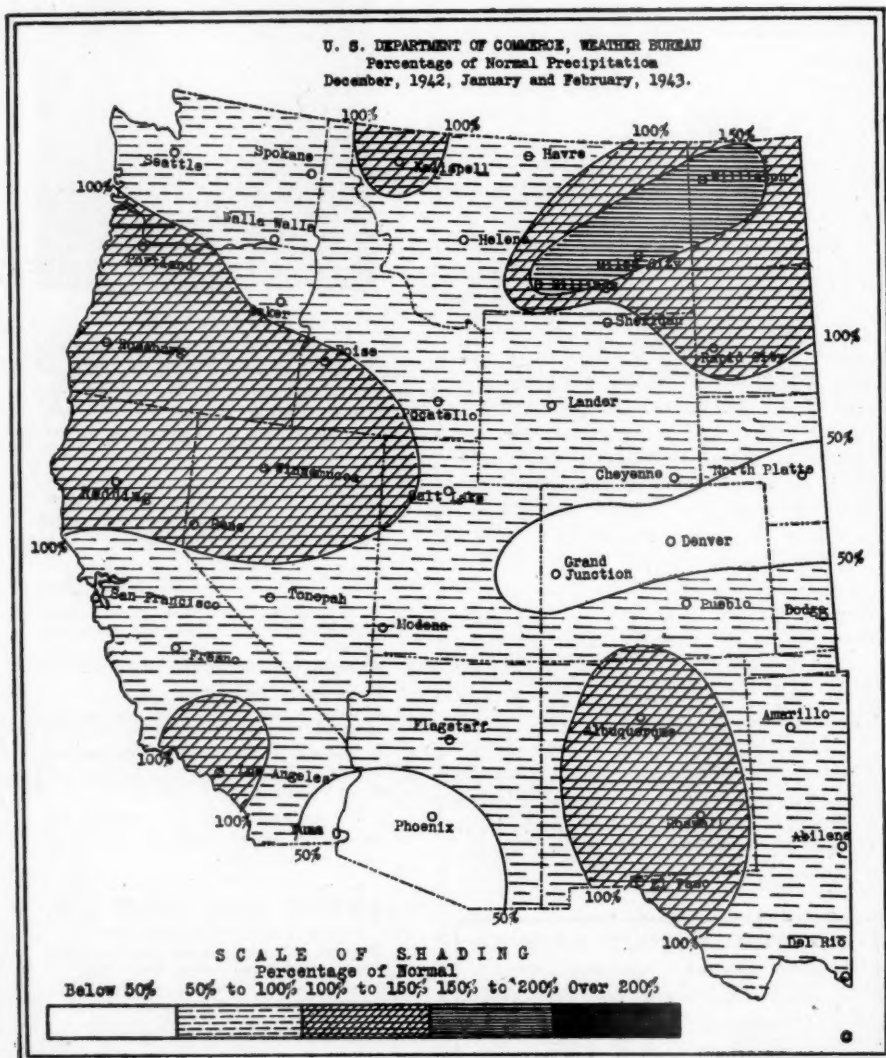
Salt Lake City	4.25	4.13	-0.12	-1.38
Modena	2.63	1.95	-0.68	-1.30

Wyoming—

Sheridan	2.19	1.75	-0.44	+2.55
Lander	1.87	1.51	-0.36	-4.20
Cheyenne	1.61	1.31	-0.30	-4.20
Rapid City, S. D.	1.37	1.45	+0.08	+1.25
No. Platte, Neb.	1.45	0.44	-1.01	+5.90

Colorado—

Denver	1.66	0.72	-0.94	+1.11
Pueblo	1.28	1.21	-0.07	+1.93
Grand Junction	1.81	0.65	-1.16	-2.53
Dodge City, Kas.	1.75	1.25	-0.50	-0.56



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3 Months
Excess (+) or
Deficit (-)
in Months

07 -2.31
02 -2.15
51 +0.67

75 +9.76
33 -0.59
52 +8.74

08 -
37 +0.29
34 -1.71
26 +2.39

26 -
47 +1.26

41 -2.68
40 -
05 -1.91

43 +0.62
07 -0.42

75 +3.70
12 +1.04
7 +1.10
2 +0.13

1 +2.10
4 -0.13
4 +3.19
7 +0.30
3 +0.46

6 +0.00
3 -0.09

2 -1.38
8 -1.30

4 +2.55
0 -4.20
0 -4.20
3 +1.25
1 +5.90

4 +1.11
7 +1.93
6 -2.53
0 -0.56

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AROUND

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Wyoming

Comparatively mild or unseasonably warm weather prevailed pretty steadily through the month, with a cold snap toward the close. Snows were light and not frequent, causing little hindrance to livestock and to work with livestock. Wind and drought have caused considerable damage to winter grains in places. The mountains are filled with snow, and water is plentiful in most streams, though livestock water is scarce in other sections. Livestock are mostly doing well.

Gillette, Campbell County

The canned goods rationing is another headache. There's so much red tape about getting equipment and materials for the ranch that by the time you get what you want you don't need it.

We don't know yet just how the shearing situation will stack up. Most of our crews come from Texas and we don't know yet whether they will be available again this year.

We haven't had enough snow for water this winter, but feed has been fair, and our losses have been below normal so far (February 25). Some cake is being fed but no hay.

B. E. Reno

Casper, Natrona County

The weather around Casper has been fine, except for lots of wind (February 25). We haven't any range feed, however, and while losses have been about the same as last year, if we get one of those bad springs, as we sometimes do, there will be a very severe loss, as our sheep haven't wintered very well; the poorest in several years. If we don't get some heavy snows, we won't have enough water for lambing, as all reservoirs are almost dry. I think nearly every one is feeding cottonseed cake and corn; very little hay is ever fed around this country, but baled native hay is about \$23 a ton and the alfalfa a little higher.

As every one got a good price for lambs and aged ewes, there is a tendency to increase the flocks as much

as possible and a little better than that.

I think there has been a little contracting of 1943 wools going on and that 38 cents has been paid. We will probably be able to get shearers and wool bags, although we may have to wait until shearing crews can get to us.

As far as food rationing goes, this is every one's war, and most of our men are willing to do without as much as they can. It is going to be difficult to curtail on meat and of course coffee and sugar, but that is very little compared to what the boys over there are doing.

There aren't many coyotes around here any more. Of course, we have a government trapper and a private trapper and they keep them pretty well cleaned up.

E. A. Sheppard

South Dakota

Normal temperatures prevailed most of the time, with milder weather and plenty of sunshine part of the time. Light rains or snows were reported, though leaving little snow on the ground, and causing little or no real inconvenience or suffering. Some field work is being done by farmers in southeastern counties. Livestock have plenty of feed and are consequently in fair to excellent condition.

Montana

Mild weather was the general rule, with only a brief spell of cold weather toward the close. Precipitation has been fairly general, and more or less plentiful over the open grazing areas. Most of the low country is bare of snow. Winter grains and livestock are reported to be in good condition, winter livestock losses being light. Some range feeding was reported in the eastern portion, but snow covers the ranges farther west.

Broadus, Powder River County

The winter range is in good shape here with lots of grass on the ground, although it does not have the same quality as usual (February 25). Most

of the growers are feeding corn and some kind of supplemental feed; also some hay feeding was done the last half of January and the fore part of February, as the ice was pretty bad here. There is plenty of hay in this section.

I think sheep numbers are about the same as a year ago and probably can't be increased much as help is too hard to get. I believe blue bag in ewes causes more summer loss here than any other thing. We hope something can soon be found to prevent it.

There hasn't been much wool contracting here. Coyotes are on the increase and have caused quite a heavy loss this winter.

Otis E. Nisley

Idaho

Seasonal temperatures prevailed, being more or less above the normal much of the time, but not much below at any time. Rains and snows were plentiful, especially early in the month, leaving plenty of moisture for livestock in the open. Lambing has been active, with mostly favorable weather. The lower areas are largely bare of snow. Livestock are mostly in pretty good shape, though hay is becoming scarce locally.

Washington

Temperatures were somewhat to appreciably above normal through the month and generally over the state, with ample amounts and frequent occurrences of rains in the west and snows in the eastern parts, excepting for dry weather toward the last of the month. Wheat is promising in the southeast, but barley has been damaged. There is little or no pasturage in the east, but it has improved in the west, and livestock are in pretty good shape generally.

Pomeroy, Garfield County

We are having normal weather here (February 26), with clear days and frosty nights. All of our ewes have been fed grain all winter but no hay until lambing. The oats and barley cost us about \$30 a ton on the aver-

age; no hay to be had now. Our breeding bands are about 10 per cent smaller than they were last year, but our winter losses have been lighter than usual.

We have promises of the same shearing crew that we have had in the past 16 years and have sufficient bags in sight, 75 per cent of them being paper.

Coffee and canned goods rations will be very hard on sheep herders.
Felix DeRuwe

Oregon

Temperatures were somewhat or appreciably above normal rather uniformly through the month, and in practically all parts of the state. Pre-

cipitation occurred occasionally, and chiefly in adequate amounts for all immediate needs. It was in the form of rain in the west, and snow in the east. Conditions favored a considerable amount of field work on farms. Small grains and grasses are starting and livestock are in good condition generally. Lambing continues with small losses.

California

Temperatures were almost continually well above normal generally over the state, while precipitation occurred at timely intervals in nearly all sections, excepting only the southern desert areas. Conditions were very favorable for crop and vegetation growth. Ranges and pastures are thus luxuriant as a rule, and livestock are everywhere in good or satisfactory condition.

Livermore, Alameda County

Conditions have been good here this winter; our losses are slightly below those of other recent years, and no supplemental feeding has been done (February 23). Last year we had to feed some.

Some 1943 wools are reported contracted at 44 cents. The outlook for getting shearers is all right, but we have only about .50 per cent of our bags in sight.

We are having a lot of trouble in getting repair parts. I have needed a welding rod for some time and can't get it. I figure it is just about six months too late now.

Graham Nissen

Orland, Glenn County

Most of the sheep have been fed for a while during the winter, although it has not been necessary to feed quite so extensively as last year. We use corn and cottonseed cake. Weather and feed conditions are good (March 2), but our winter loss is a little higher than it has been in recent years.

The rationing of canned goods is working a hardship on us. It is very difficult to get food supplies now.

Coyotes are on the increase and we haven't been able to get sufficient ammunition to keep them down lately.

E. R. Murdock

Nevada

Mild or moderate temperatures prevailed, the third week being quite

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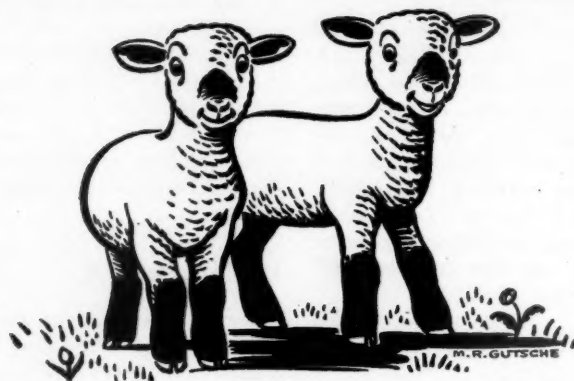
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lly, and warm. Precipitation was generous the first two weeks, leaving ample moisture for livestock nearly everywhere. Warm weather has greatly reduced the snow cover, and pastures and ranges have made some growth. Livestock have made a little improvement, but are still largely on feed. Supplies of supplemental feeds are plentiful as a rule.

Utah

Continually over slightly above, being well above locally a few days recently. Precipitation was in the form of snow, but was mostly light. However, enough remains on the desert areas for livestock drink. The absence of severe weather has conserved feed supplies, and the thin snow covering has made the range generally available. Livestock are mostly in good condition. Some sheep and lambs have been marketed, while a few cattle are in fattening yards.

Meadow, Bushnell County

We have lacked snow all winter, which has caused us to use our water holes and springs too much and that in turn has made a poor range condition (February 23). From 6 to 8 per cent of our ewes are on supplemental feed, which is slightly more than usual. I am using "hot" wheat and barley, but most of the other boys are using pellets. Grain is around \$40 a ton; hay, the grassy kind, is \$15 a ton and the best alfalfa, \$20. Our losses in ewes during the winter have not been out of proportion with other years.

I haven't heard of anybody being offered a price on wool. As for shearers, we have had the same shearers for several years and expect them again this year. I haven't lined up my bags and twine yet but have been informed by the Utah Wool Growers Association that they can get them for me.

We hope the rationing board will be a little more liberal with the man on the range so far as canned and processed goods are concerned. I was just reading that they will be. Lumber and fencing materials are hard to get here, but if things get too hard, we'll visit the saw mills in southern Utah.

Our losses from coyotes were quite heavy in the fall until the furs got good and private trappers got on the job. One trapper caught 22 in two days around my herd, two- and three-foot-

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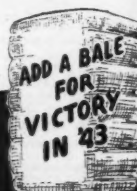
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For History of the Breed, List of Members, Pedigree Blanks, Etc., Address the Secretary.

ed bitches. At present we can't get enough shells. But unless we sheepmen go out for a bounty, we will never get rid of the coyote. I think it is better to pay the price and get results.

Here is a Ripley story: My herders lost two 4-H Club black-faced lambs. They lived all summer with the coyotes, and this fall we found them fat and sassy. And can they lick the dogs? I'll say they can. They back up together and fight from each end.

I understand they are cutting the forest permits. I shouldn't think they'd do that right now for the following reasons: Last year was the driest season we have had for as long as I can remember. The U.S.A. needs the surplus meat. If we have all got to put our surplus stock on the market in the spring while it is in poor condition instead of in the fall when fat, it will work a hardship on the public as well as the livestockmen. High-priced labor and small herds will work another hardship on the stockman.

I. E. Bushnell

Manti, Sanpete County

We are having mild weather (March 1) and range feed, though short, is of good quality. I do not know what proportion of the ewes are being fed at this time, but cottonseed cake, pellets and corn are the concentrates used. We can get alfalfa hay in the stack at \$15 a ton. Losses in ewes have been lighter than usual this year.

I am somewhat concerned about getting shearers, but have enough new burlap bags for my wool. There has been no contracting of 1943 wools here.

Supplies of many essential materials are scarce in this area. It is particularly hard to get fencing and lumber, also repair parts. We also can't get any shells to fight coyotes and our losses from that source continue at a high rate.

Don H. Brown

Colorado

Temperatures were steadily well above normal through the month, with only light to moderate precipitation. As a consequence top soils are quite dry over extensive areas, leaving winter feed grains in only fair condition. Range feed has been ample in most sections, and livestock as a rule are in fairly good shape. A brief cold snap occurred at the end of the month.

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Collinston, Utah

Hamilton, Moffat County

We have had a mild winter with very little snow, and the sheep in this section of Moffat County are in good condition (February 27). They are being fed alfalfa hay, and it is plentiful, selling in the stack at \$10 a ton. The number of ewes bred is about the same as last year.

I have not heard of any wool sales to date. I was able to purchase burlap bags for this year's wool clip but haven't talked to any shearers as yet.

Our losses from predatory animals were much higher this year than last. Coyotes are definitely on the increase.

The rationing of canned goods will not affect us as we depend entirely on home canned products.

Herman Timmer

Glade Park, Mesa County

All of our ewes are receiving supplemental feed (February 23), as the winter range feed is only fair. We raise our own alfalfa and have been feeding Purina cubes, which cost \$58 a ton.

While we haven't checked up on shearers, we have sufficient burlap bags for this year. So far as I know no offers have been made for any 1943 wool in this section.

There are not nearly enough repair parts and other material to fill our requirements. I personally greatly need wire, staples and firecrackers and I can't get them (February 23). Fire crackers are much better, to my notion, than shells, and less expensive, in scaring off coyotes during lambing, for very seldom are coyotes seen, as they are very shy. Firecrackers create an odor as well as noise, which helps very much in handling the coyote problem during lambing.

Kenneth Thompson

Hartsel, Park County

Our flocks are all in good condition (February 15). While the ranges are dry and snow is lacking, the grass, though shorter than last year, is quite nutritive. There is also plenty of native hay available and alfalfa can be bought for \$10 a ton in the stack.

I believe our coyote losses were less in 1942, and it seems to me that we are gradually getting ahead of that predator through our control efforts. There hasn't been a sufficient supply of ammunition here, but our allotment is expected soon.

H. E. Smith

New Mexico

Temperatures were somewhat too much above normal over the state and through the month, while precipitation has been appreciably below normal, especially over the eastern portion. Livestock, however, have had enough feed as a rule, in spite of the need of most of the range for more moisture, and owing largely to the mild weather, were in excellent condition as the month closed.

Miami, Colfax County

We've had an open winter, the same as last year; very little feeding has been necessary and losses have been light (February 24). A little cottonseed cake has been fed, but it is not now obtainable. It cost \$52 a ton; from \$15 to \$18 a ton is the present price on alfalfa hay in the stack.

We have our usual outfit of shearers contracted and believe there will be little trouble generally in getting enough of them to handle the job this spring. Neither do we believe there will be much difficulty in getting enough bags for the clip. Our chief concern now is about getting dried fruits—we do not use much canned goods. It's too soon to tell how this problem will be worked out. Also it's hard, and in some cases, impossible to get repair parts and other necessary material.

Our losses from predators are very light.

N. M. Mikesell

Roswell, Chaves County

The weather up to the present time (March 3) has been good and the stock are in fine shape, with very small losses reported. It is, however, beginning to get dry and we will need some moisture before lambing starts along the first of April.

Very little hay or grain is fed here, but most every one feeds cottonseed cake, the demand for which this year



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has exceeded the supply, which makes it hard to get. For 28 per cent cake, the price has been holding pretty steady at \$34 a ton.

Up to the present time the outlook for obtaining shearers looks good. We shear about the 20th of March and have already contracted our shearers. We will continue to feed our sheep until the 15th of April when lambing starts.

It is going to be impossible to carry on economical operations under any plan the government has yet set up for rationing canned goods. In order to carry on economically, it is necessary for the ranch people to buy in large quantities; the government has made that impossible, thereby increasing our operating expenses from 25 to 33 1/3 per cent when the outlook at the present time is for wool to be as cheap or cheaper than it was last year.

H. A. Lowrey

Arizona

Exceptionally high temperatures were reported, none of the month being as cool as normal. The more elevated parts of the state had a little precipitation, but generally there was little or no moisture, and rains are much needed. The warmth has favored livestock and while supplemental feeding has been more extensive than usual, livestock are generally in good condition.

Glendale, Maricopa County

On the east side the winter range is fairly good but it is very dry on the west and feed conditions are poor (February 27). While there have been no big death losses, we've spent lots of money, as everybody on the west side has had to use winter pas-

The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states in Around the Range Country are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of February.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

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tures. We are paying \$13.50 on the average for alfalfa hay in the stack. We are having great difficulty in getting wire, feed camp supplies and labor, and it's almost impossible to obtain such things as repair parts, horseshoes, etc. A similar situation exists as to poison, ammunition and trappers for predatory animal control work.

Personally, I am stymied—we need a new set-up.

Jose Antonio Mantrola

Western Texas

Temperatures were mild or near normal, only a few brief periods being comparatively cold. Rains and snows were light or lacking, and thus more rain is needed practically everywhere. Ranges are only fair in most western counties, which has left both sheep and cattle in only fair condition throughout western Texas generally.

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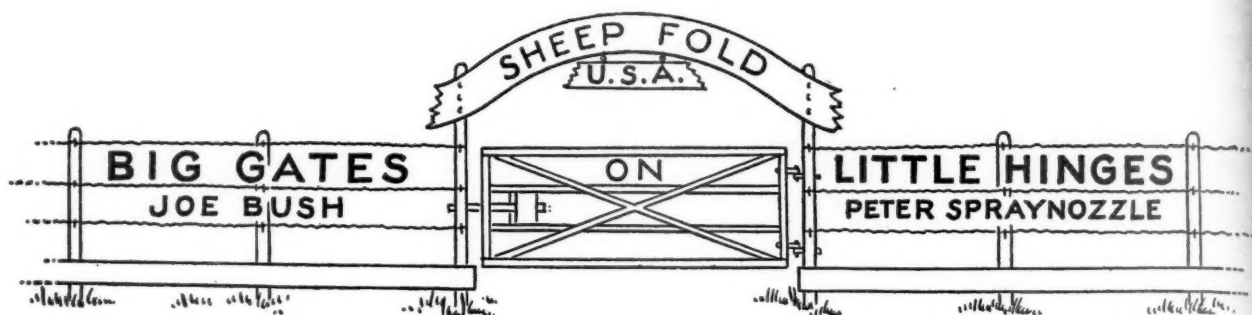
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JOE BUSH says it is written—Matthew 5-41—that the Man of Galilee said, “Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.” That “twain mile,” as Joe Bush reads it, is a little journey beyond the line of duty, and those who take that little journey beyond the line of duty are not interested at the moment in sun-time or wartime, collar-to-collar time, or overtime; they travel that “twain mile” because it seems like the thing to do.

That “twain mile,” that little journey beyond the line of duty, cannot be taken at a time or place convenient to the traveler. It’s not on the time card of tomorrow or some time in the future; the opportunity to go that “twain mile” comes unexpectedly and the little journey beyond the line of duty is taken then or never.

Man may have a blueprint of the mile he is compelled to go, but that “twain mile,” that little journey beyond the line of duty, is not shown on any blueprint, road map or time card, but he who walks that “twain mile” walks on untrod grass.

In the snowstorm of the week ending February 13 that swept over the intermountain country, a shepherd Joe and me know took that little journey beyond the line of duty to save the flock trusted to his care, keep them from drifting with the storm and piling up on the floor of a canyon. We would like to write his name here, write it in boxcar letters, but when he told Joe and me the story from a bed in the hospital in our town, it was with the understanding that his name would not be used. But because he took that little journey beyond the line of duty, because he went that “twain mile” 1500 head of sheep are feeding on a winter range on the Nevada desert, that might have piled up on the floor of a canyon. And because his Boss, the flockmaster, was also willing to go that “twain mile,” take the little journey beyond the line of duty, the herder is on the road to recovery in a hospital. The herder went that “twain mile” to save the sheep; the flockmaster to save the life of a fellowman. Many there are who go that “twain mile” that return no more.

* * *

An engine crew on the D. & R. G. was called to take an engine from Salt Lake City to Midvale to meet a troop train from the training camp at Kearns, Utah, and haul its load of soldiers to Helper, Utah, on the first leg of a journey to an unknown destination. At Midvale the fireman found one of the grates out of place. Had there been time another engine might have been called, but “Keep ‘em Rolling” is more than just a wall motto or an office desk slogan to the men who “keep ‘em rolling” on the

rails of the D. & R. G.

So the engineer and his fireman, in order to “keep ‘em rolling,” made it their business, their job, to fix that grate. The engineer with the red hot coals showering down on him worked from under the engine and the fireman crawled into the fire box and worked from the inside. In the first try the heat drove the engineer out from under the engine and the fireman out of the firebox. They, the engineer and the fireman, tried it again, and on the second try, the grate was placed in its proper position and when the troop train pulled in from Kearns, Engine No. 1801 was ready for the run as a troop special over the Salt Lake-Helper division of the D. & R. G.

Just an incident in wartime railroading—maybe so. But as Joe Bush and me see it, to work under an engine in a shower of red hot coals, to crawl into a firebox of an engine under a full head of steam is a little journey beyond the line of duty; it’s going that “twain mile” mentioned by the Man of Galilee in Matthew 5-41, to do a job and leave it as a job well done.

* * *

Then there is the “Great Woman” whose name we don’t know, who had no way of showing her greatness except as a wife, a mother, a neighbor, written of in the second book of Kings. She was a farmer’s wife, we know that, for on one occasion we read that her son was in the field with the father. Their home was a little house by the side of the road, so small that a “lean-to” had to be built to care for the occasional traveler. And it is written that one who stood before kings wished to present her to the king, but she answered, “I dwell among mine own people.” She went that “twain mile” and wrote not her name but her deeds among those written of in the second book of Kings. She, too, went that “twain mile,” took that little journey beyond the line of duty.

The Good Samaritan also walked that “twain mile”—took that little journey beyond the line of duty. Out of many thousand of Samaritans, we don’t know the name of this one, but the Man of Galilee told of his deed done on that little journey beyond the line of duty, put it among the stars that shine out from the gospel that tells the story of the Master as He walked that “twain mile” on many little journeys beyond the line of duty.

Joe Bush says that those who have the will and the courage to go that “twain mile,” to take that little journey beyond the line of duty when need calls, never stop to reckon the possible cost.